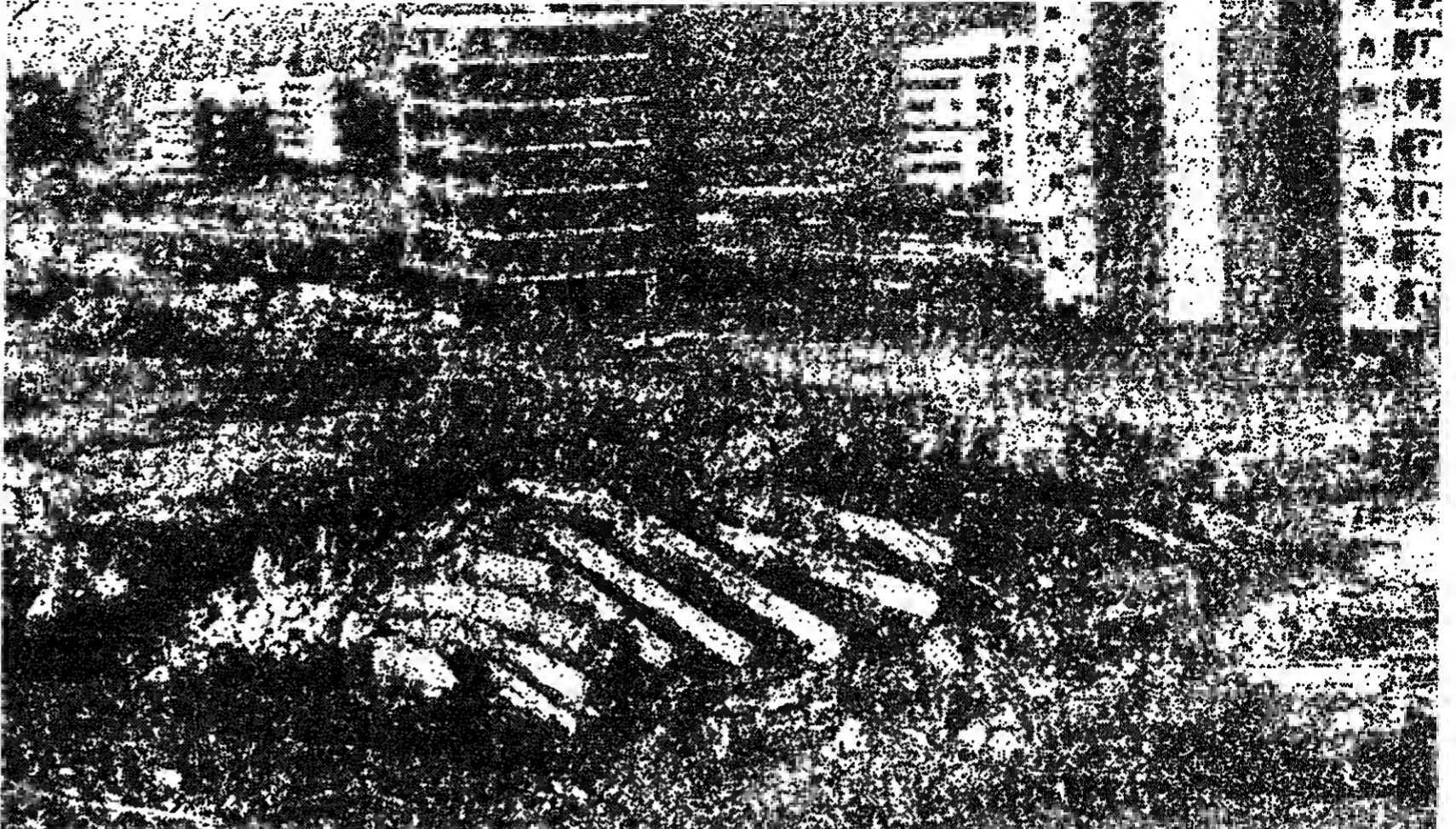


Beirut bomb toll soars towards 200



All that remains of the 10-storey building occupied by the French peace-keeping force. At least 27 paratroopers died in the explosion.

Tomorrow

Blowing hot...
In the second extract from his autobiographical trilogy, Philip Oakes recalls a brief but happy flirtation with the London jazz scene and cold Brian Crozier on why Germany's foreign minister is hijacking the traditional US role in nuclear arms control talks with the Soviet Union.

Bow...
Fashion looks at the use of ribbons in new designs.



Brian Glanville tells why Hungary can still help England's footballers qualify for the European Championships

Boycott's backers win round

Yorkshire County Cricket Club faces a special general meeting over the dismissal of Geoffrey Boycott. His supporters, angered that the county had dropped him met in a hotel in Osett, West Yorkshire, last night and collected more than 240 signatures to force the special meeting.

Telecom action growing

The telephone network faces more disruption today as Telecom unions, heartened by their court victory last week, step up the campaign against privatization. The unions will announce a £250,000 advertising campaign to combat the Government's sell-off proposals.

Millions march

As many as two million people marched in West Europe's capitals against the cruise and Pershing 2 missiles. Joining the protest was West Germany's former Chancellor Willy Brandt.

Iraq attacks

Iraq reported 116 people killed yesterday in Iraqi missile attacks on Iranian towns. Baghdad said these were in retaliation for Iran's recent offensive in northern Iraq.

Lean questioned

Robert Lean, the IRA supergrass who retracted evidence against 28 people, is being questioned by detectives about the murder of another alleged informer three years ago.

Health tax idea

The health service could be partially financed by a tax raised by local health authorities, Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, has suggested.

Gulf Oil fight

Gulf Oil is preparing a defence against a possible \$10,000m takeover bid from a mainly Texan group that has built up a strategic stake.

Durie defeated

Joanna Durie, was beaten 6-1, 6-1 by Chris Lloyd in the final of the Daihatsu tennis tournament at Brighton.

Leader page 15

Letters on justice for police officers, from Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP; on NHS cuts, from Dr N. P. Mallick and others; on the nuclear freeze, from Dr J. W. Arriens and Lord Mayhew.

Features pages 11, 12, 14

James Callaghan on the way to deal with Moscow; Richard Nixon's publishing coup; Spectrum: Go home, virgin soldiers; Modern Times: Quiet hours at the club; Mauritius: a three-page special report on an island which is a rare example of racial harmony.

Obituary page 16

Mr Harry Grylls, Mr Paul Hardwick, Dr R. E. Smith.

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Cricket	36	TV & Radio	35
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● The death toll in the dawn bombing of American and French troops in Beirut last night headed towards 200; at least 160 are known dead, with many still buried under the rubble and others badly injured in hospitals.

● Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, said evidence pointed to Iran being responsible, and hinted at retaliation once the attackers' identity was confirmed.

● President Reagan led Western leaders in condemning the bombing as "a despicable act" but emphasized that it would not alter his commitment to Lebanon.

● Conflicting commitment to the peacekeeping force was also expressed by France and Italy, but Britain said it may have to review the position.

Suicide trucks hit US and French HQs

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

American diplomats and Marine commanders in Beirut believe that Syria as well as Iran was behind the mass slaughter of more than 160 American and French troops in the Lebanese capital yesterday by suicide bombers who drove 4,000lb of explosives into two military headquarters of the multinational force.

The men responsible - both of whom smashed their way into the military compounds with lorries carrying huge bombs - are thought to be Lebanese Shia Muslims belonging to an extremist faction of the Amal militia based in Syrian-occupied eastern Lebanon. The Americans blamed the same group for an almost identical attack against the American Embassy here last April, which left 62 people dead.

By last night the bodies of at least 135 American Marines - by far the greatest loss of life suffered by American military forces since the Vietnam war - had been dragged from beneath hundreds of tons of concrete that collapsed on top of them when the first bomb went off at 6.20 yesterday morning.

At least 26 French paratroopers were killed at their company headquarters four miles away in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

With murderous precision the bombers set off their explosives just 20 seconds apart, in what was clearly a meticulously planned and executed assault against both the international army in Beirut and the dwindling prestige of the Lebanese Government.

The bombings have poisoned the atmosphere for the Lebanese reconciliation talks,

US reinforcements ready

Despicable act, says Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan condemned the bomb attack on the US Marine headquarters in Beirut as a "despicable act" yesterday, but made it clear that the deaths of the servicemen would not alter his commitment to keep American peace-keeping forces in Lebanon.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, who had opposed sending the Marines, also emphasized that the 1,600-strong force would stay in Beirut, saying "We cannot simply walk away".

Mr Weinberger said that "circumstantial evidence" pointed to Iran being behind the bombing, but he also made it clear that Soviet involvement could not be ruled out. He added that the immediate concern of the US was how the American and other contingents of the multinational peace-keeping force could be made less vulnerable to similar attacks in the future.

Mr Weinberger also indicated that the US was considering taking retaliatory action once the identity of the attackers was confirmed.

Treasury seeks energy savings

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The Treasury, forced to concede defeat in its attempt to cut the value of benefits paid to the unemployed, has turned to the energy industry for savings in public expenditure, a chance that could signal big increases in fuel prices next year.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, has refused to give way to the Treasury's demands for savings of up to £400m in loans and grants to the industry. He must now argue his case before the "star chamber", the small group of senior ministers under the chairmanship of Lord White-law set up by the Cabinet last Thursday after Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, reported that he was still £1,000m over the £126,400m spending target for 1984-85.

Mr Walker, who has little political sympathy with the Treasury's hardline approach to public spending, is certain to argue that a fresh squeeze on the energy industry's finances would jeopardize the Government's inflation hopes by driving up fuel prices, halt badly needed investment and, in the coal industry, accelerate the pace of pit closures which could tip the balance towards strike action.

Callaghan urges closer Soviet links

Britain should become "more active" in its diplomatic contacts with the Soviet Union, former Labour Prime Minister Mr James Callaghan says in *The Times* today, commenting on a recent visit to Moscow.

After talks with Soviet leaders including Foreign Minister Mr Andrei Gromyko, Mr Callaghan concludes: "For the West to denounce publicly their leaders as evil men is not sufficient foundation for an effective western foreign policy. And as neither President Reagan nor Mrs Thatcher have any intention of launching a war to remove the system, they had better start to devise a less simplistic approach to regulating East-West relations in a highly dangerous world."

He says he found that Soviet leaders talked in private with "an absence of vitriol or ideology" and that both sides should be ready to convene fresh talks on intermediate-range missiles in Europe even if there is a pause or freeze after the deployment of cruise missiles. Let's be realistic, page 14

ON PAGES 6 and 7

British strikers' review International outrage

Leading article 15 More photographs back page

US reinforcements ready

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan condemned the bomb attack on the US Marine headquarters in Beirut as a "despicable act" yesterday, but made it clear that the deaths of the servicemen would not alter his commitment to keep American peace-keeping forces in Lebanon.

Callaghan urges closer Soviet links

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Fear grows as Antrim sails to Grenada

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The destroyer, HMS Antrim, was steaming at full speed for Grenada last night amid fears on the island of an Anglo-American invasion after last week's coup. But the Ministry of Defence in London described the deployment as no more than a prudent precaution if it became necessary to evacuate the 250 Britons said to be there.

New Police Bill concessions

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Independent assessors will for the first time supervise the investigation of complaints against the police, under the terms of the revised Police and Criminal Evidence Bill to be published on Thursday. The Bill will also require all police questioning of suspects to be tape-recorded. Unrecorded evidence will not be admissible in court. These two major changes to the Government's proposals are among several made by Mr Leon Brittan, who took over as Home Secretary from Lord Whitelaw in June. The main stop-and-search provisions of the Bill, which fell at the dissolution of Parliament, will be retained. Nor will there be any change in the clauses to allow a person suspected of a serious arrestable offence to be detained in police custody without charge for up to 96 hours subject to magistrates' warrants. As a further step, which ministers hope will reduce public anxiety about extending police powers to stop and search, the Government will also on Thursday publish White Paper proposals to remove the power of prosecution from the police in England and Wales. It is believed they have opted for a national system of public prosecutors centrally employed and funded, as recommended by a Home Office working party. It would follow the lines of the existing Scottish system. Much of the opposition to the Bill debated in the last Parliament was based on the inability of the Government to say when independent prosecution and the recording of evidence would be established. Experimental recording has been done by several police forces for some time, but the Home Office is still unable to say when forces throughout the country will be equipped and ready to make the practice general and no commencement date will be in the revised Bill. The changes proposed in the police complaints procedure stop short of the demands of campaigners that lay people should join in the investigations. Ministers remain convinced that outsiders would be ineffective because they would not get the necessary cooperation from the police. They hope instead that legitimate anxiety will be satisfied by the appointment of independent assessors, generally with legal training, to supervise. The latest concessions come after some 300 amendments were made to the draft legislation in the last Parliament.

صكنا من الاجل

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Tomorrow Mr Kinlock will for the first time face Mrs Thatcher during Prime Minister's question time...

When Mr Wilson became Prime Minister he preserved his dominance against Sir Alec and then Mr Heath...

Kinlock is best at attack

But he does not have to defeat the Prime Minister often at question time in order to win the next election...

Indignation will be his weapon

He demonstrated that technique to good effect in his principal speech to the Labour conference at Brighton...

Telecom faces fresh disruption as unions step up sell-off battle

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

British Telecom unions plan to step up their campaign against privatization of the state telephone monopoly...

Mercury a private enterprise rival to the Telecom network, was a genuine trade dispute...

The first target of the unions' massive advertising campaign is to prevent foreign shareholdings...

MacGregor set for showdown

The stage was set for a confrontation in the mining industry yesterday after Mr Ian MacGregor...

Hattersley tipped as shadow chancellor

Mr Neil Kinnock has told his deputy, Mr Roy Hattersley, that he would like him to take on the role of shadow chancellor...

Sale room

Rolls-Royces fetch nearly £400,000

Calier wins with a quick draw

From Harry Golombek Chess Correspondent St Peter Port

Whitehall leaks

Union proposes less secrecy

Superdogs have their day



Dog tired: The excitement was too much for this champion Merveeva bulldog Halcyon Daze...

Cruise may arrive next week

The Government is making final plans for the arrival of the first cruise missiles at Greenham Common...

War of statistics

Heated debate over research on exams

SDP chief proposes local health tax

The proposal that elected district health authorities should be empowered to raise part of their revenue by levying a local health tax...

Pipe major sweeps the trophies

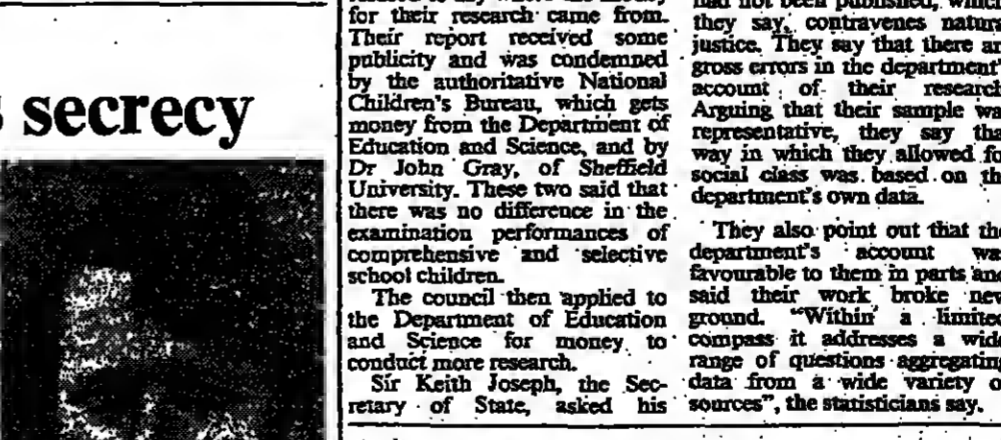
Body clue to missing wife

Treasury seeks savings in energy industries

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Sotheby's



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Reluctant supergrass faces questions over murder of alleged IRA informer

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The reluctant republican supergrass, Mr Robert Lean, who retracted allegations against 28 people, is being questioned by detectives about the murder of another alleged informer almost three years ago. Mr Lean, aged 37, is, according to his wife Geraldine, about to be charged with murder on the word of another informer. She claimed her husband, who was initially implicated by William Skelly, was named by him again on the day he withdrew his evidence. Mrs Lean a mother of five, said she had not seen her husband since his arrest minutes after telling a press conference how he fled from police "minders" and had been intimidated into making statements against republicans. She said: "Bobby's solicitor, who had been to see him, came to me and told me he was going to be charged with murder. I expected the RUC to do something like this."

Lean had been given immunity from any crimes he admitted but the latest matter is not covered by that agreement. Eleven people, including two leading republicans, Ivor Bell and Edward Carmichael, had charges against them withdrawn after Lean's retraction. He was first named by William Skelly, an alleged informer, earlier this summer and according to Mrs Lean, he made a further statement after her husband made an affidavit withdrawing his statements against the 28 men and women. It is understood Mr Lean is being questioned about the murder of Patrick Trainer, aged 28, who was shot dead by the Provisional IRA in February 1981 for allegedly giving information to the security forces. While the RUC have faced embarrassment over Mr Lean's retraction particularly as he was portrayed as a "potentially very significant" informant, the fact that he is now being questioned about another matter indicates they intend to continue with the policy. The fact that he has apparently been named for the second time by an alleged informer indicates that the disruption and uncertainty that the tactic has caused within paramilitary movements will also continue for some time.

Mr Robert Lean: Named by informer

Earl found dead at mansion

Lord Craven, whose family is reputed to have been cursed centuries ago, was found dead at an East Sussex mansion on Saturday.

Police said they were called before lunchtime to Peeling Manor at Hankham, near Eastbourne, where they found the body of the seventh earl, aged 26, lying beside a shotgun. A police spokesman said there were no suspicious circumstances and the coroner had been informed. The family was said to have been cursed hundreds of years ago after an ancestor made a village girl pregnant. Lord Craven's friend, Ann Nicholson, who was living with him and their son Tommy, aged six, said: "The curse does worry him a lot."



Looking back: These visitors to Hyde Park yesterday were suitably dressed to take part in a Victorian costume competition, part of festivities accompanying the exhibition "Albert: His life and work" at the Royal College of Art (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Video game makers fear slump in sales

By Cindy Miles

Fears are growing among British video game manufacturers that they could soon face the same rapid drop in sales and profits that have affected their US counterparts. Warner Communications' Atari, which led the video games boom in America with Asteroids and Space Invaders, has recorded a \$356m (£231m) loss this year. The rival Mattel company has been no happier. Its Intellec division has shown a \$20m (£130m) deficit. Other companies battling in the same market, including Activision and Bally, have also suffered.

Behind the decline is the fact that people no longer want machines which play games only. They want computers which can perform other functions. Thus when the price of home computers fell so did sales of games machines. But analysts point out that the markets in Britain and the US are surprisingly different. In Britain computers rather than games machines always made the running, thanks to the low-cost hardware from Sir Clive Sinclair. Although they are still used mainly for game-playing they have full micro-computing facilities.

While the US was working from small business computers down to the home market, Britain was developing both equally, leaving little room for game-only machines. Yet fears of a big shake-up after the Christmas rush could prove real because although buying habits have not changed, they have matured. The initial flush of novelty has died and people buying games for their machines now become more demanding. They know what is good and what will quickly be discarded as dross, which could cause difficulties for the rapidly increasing number of companies that might need to put quantity before quality.

Vine scourge turns into 'non-event'

By Jane MacQuilty, Wine Correspondent

The announcement last week that phylloxera aphid had reemerged in Britain after 23 years may have been unduly pessimistic. To date, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, the aphid has attacked only two vines, both in private gardens. One is at Acle in Norfolk, the other in the outskirts of Swindon, Wiltshire. The Swindon vine suffered most, with galls on the underside of the leaves and small dark knotty root galls. The Acle vine was affected only by the leaf gall and both infestations have been eradicated by the ministry. So far no commercial vineyards have been attacked and it seems unlikely that any will be for the

Architects 'paid far less than other professions'

By Charles McKean, Architecture Correspondent

Architects earn significantly less than other professional people such as doctors, lawyers and accountants, according to the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) 1983 survey of employment and earnings. In some parts of the country a qualified architect of five years' experience can earn less than a police constable and half the salary of a doctor or accountant of similar seniority. Although architects' earnings rose by 8.4 per cent in the past year, their overall income in relation to the rest of society shows little sign of change, the survey says. The median earnings of architects practising on their own account was only £11,010,

Electronic mercy for erring lawyers

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The solicitor's worst nightmare, a trusted colleague milking clients' money, was conquered by a computer on display at the Law Society's national conference in Paris this weekend. It was in an "office of the future" exhibition. Computer specialists built into the exhibit's accounting system a method of testing a partner's trustworthiness. The program was set up by the Solicitors' Law Stationery Society. The system first tells an errant partner that he has broken an accounting rule and gives him the chance to correct it and redeem himself. If he does not the system shows to all who monitor it that he has continued wilfully on his path of fraud. Mens rea, guilty intent, is thus neatly demonstrated to satisfy a court of law. Clients in the family solicitor's office of the future will find him with a visual display unit on his desk. Wills to suit family circumstances and appropriate petitions for undefended divorces will print out automatically in response to questionnaire answers.

Catholic schools asked to phase out cane

The Catholic Education Council, the organization which decides Roman Catholic education policy in Britain, has called for the phasing out of corporal punishment in schools. The council's advice to diocesan schools commissioners in England and Wales was welcomed yesterday as a "major breakthrough" by the Society of Teachers Opposed to Capital Punishment. The society said that previous Catholic policy had been to leave decisions about caning to individual schools.

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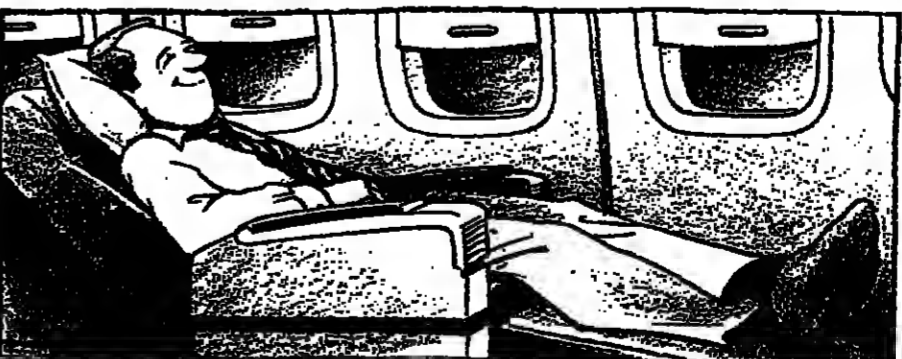
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Runcie rebukes critics of remarriage rules

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has rebuked the critics of the Church of England's new procedures for remarriage to church, while offering them further consultations before the proposals are implemented. Addressing Canterbury synod on Saturday, Dr Runcie said he regretted that the proposals have been declared by some to be unworkable "before the documents and directions have been seen". It was almost impossible to explain to a couple how the church has got itself into the situation of agreeing to something in principle which it is either unwilling or unable to do in practice. This was his message to those critics. But he added that he was "far from under-estimating the amount of disquiet which is already felt" about the suggested procedures. He wished the bishops to meet their clergy to discuss difficulties before a final decision was made. It is unusual for an archbishop to throw his whole weight behind a proposal awaiting debate by the General Synod like this, and it is further evidence that supporters of the remarriage of divorcees in church take seriously the strong body of opinion against them. A campaign against remarriage has been organized up and down the country since the General Synod agreed in principle to it last July, and there are indications that it has gained considerable support. In the General Synod debate next month they will attempt to defeat the detailed regulations for conducting remarriages, having narrowly failed to defeat the principle in July.

Getting the call: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, taking part in a BBC World Service live phone-in programme yesterday which drew questions from all over the world. Next week's guest on the programme will be the Prime Minister.

Foxes 'dug out and released for hunt'

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Campaigners against hunting claimed yesterday to have photographic evidence that fox hunters break their own rules against animal abuse. The material was obtained by "moles" who posed as hunt supporters while working for the League Against Cruel Sports. Mr Richard Course, executive director of the league, said yesterday that a series of still photographs showed a fox being dug out of an earth. The fox, he added, was then placed in a sack and released in the vicinity of the West Dulverton hunt as the hounds were being called up. The incident will be described in detail in *Outfoxed*, a book to be published before Christmas by Mr Michael Heseltine, the "mole" whose activities were described first in *The Times* in August. Mr Course said that Mr Heseltine had taken the photographs while with the Dulverton West in January. Mr Course said that film with sound taken by another league infiltrator in 1980 showed people digging fox cubs out of an earth and taking them to the kennels of the Holderness pack, which hunts to the north of the Humber estuary. The releasing of bagged foxes to hounds and the capture and removal from the wild of foxes are banned by the Masters of Foxhounds Association. The stills and film have been shown to *The Times*. Mr Course agreed that none of the stills showed hounds with a fox emerging from a bag in one frame. One shows a man with his back to the camera holding a fox close to the ground by its neck. Another shows a man in a field holding an open sack with fox running from him. The film includes a single panning shot of buildings leading to a closed wooden crate with fox cubs clearly visible through the slats. "This material shows that the vast majority of people who go hunting have no idea what is done by the terrierman," Mr Course said. "If they did know they would be likely to demand changes." Mr Terence Besney, huntsman with the West Dulverton pack which hunts in north Devon, said of the alleged release of a bagged fox: "We just would not do such a thing. It is his (Mr Heseltine's) version and his word against those of so many. He came out with us all last season and we took him to a friend's."

PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL HESLTON

Dole benefits have fallen sharply as proportion of earnings, study shows

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Benefits for the unemployed in Britain are a lower proportion of earnings than in any other leading Western country and have fallen sharply over the past decade, according to a study by the United Nations published in the September issue of *Economic Bulletin for Europe*.

Country	1972	1982
Austria	50.5	52.2
Belgium	63.7	67.3
Denmark	82.4	82.0
France	84.7	90.0
West Germany	70.0	75.0
Italy	43.6	47.0
Netherlands	85.0	89.4
Norway	70.3	69.3
Sweden	69.1	65.5
Switzerland	77.3	80.2
UK	75.0	47.0
Greece	55.0	59.8
Portugal	69.0	65.4
Spain	75.2	74.8
Canada	58.9	63.3

The report will provide useful ammunition for Mr Norman Fowler, the beleaguered Secretary of State for Social Services, as he tries to fight off Treasury demands for cuts in unemployment benefits as part of its search for reductions in public spending.

The study also disputes the claims of some right-wing economists, notably Professor Patrick Minford of Liverpool University, who believe that high benefits are responsible for pushing up unemployment in recent years.

replacement ratios are little changed, it says. But despite low benefits, the cost of unemployment to the Exchequer is greater in Britain than in other leading industrial countries, equivalent to between 11 and 17 per cent of state spending.

That reflects a higher level of unemployment than elsewhere and a heavy loss of revenue from income tax and national insurance contributions foregone. For a single worker, the exchequer loses £3 in taxes for every £1 paid out in benefits, the study says.

Thomas the dream engine wakes up

From Tim Jones Lydney

Forty years after the first of his steam trains puffed into imagination of children everywhere, the Rev Wilbert Vere Awdry has taken pity on the host of harassed fathers and mothers who have faced countless questions about Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends.

For Mr Awdry is just completing a history of Sodor, the mythical island where the trains run on time under the direction of a fat controller in silk hat, frock coat and spats. Sodor, parents will be pleased to learn, has survived the world economic recession rather well. On the island, which Mr Awdry imagined as being between Barrow-in-Furness and the Isle of Man, the resilient industries, thriving agriculture and expanding tourist trade are all helped by a thoroughly integrated transport system. Sodor was the Norse name of the islands to the west of Britain.



Man and machine: The Rev W. B. Awdry on the Dean Forest Railway in Gloucestershire. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

locomotive that could average 30 mph. Mr Awdry's decision to stop chronicling the adventures of Thomas, Toby, Percy, James, Sir Handel and the others did not of course mean that they had ceased to huff and puff on the island where even branch lines are profitable. Which is why children of all ages smiled this year when his

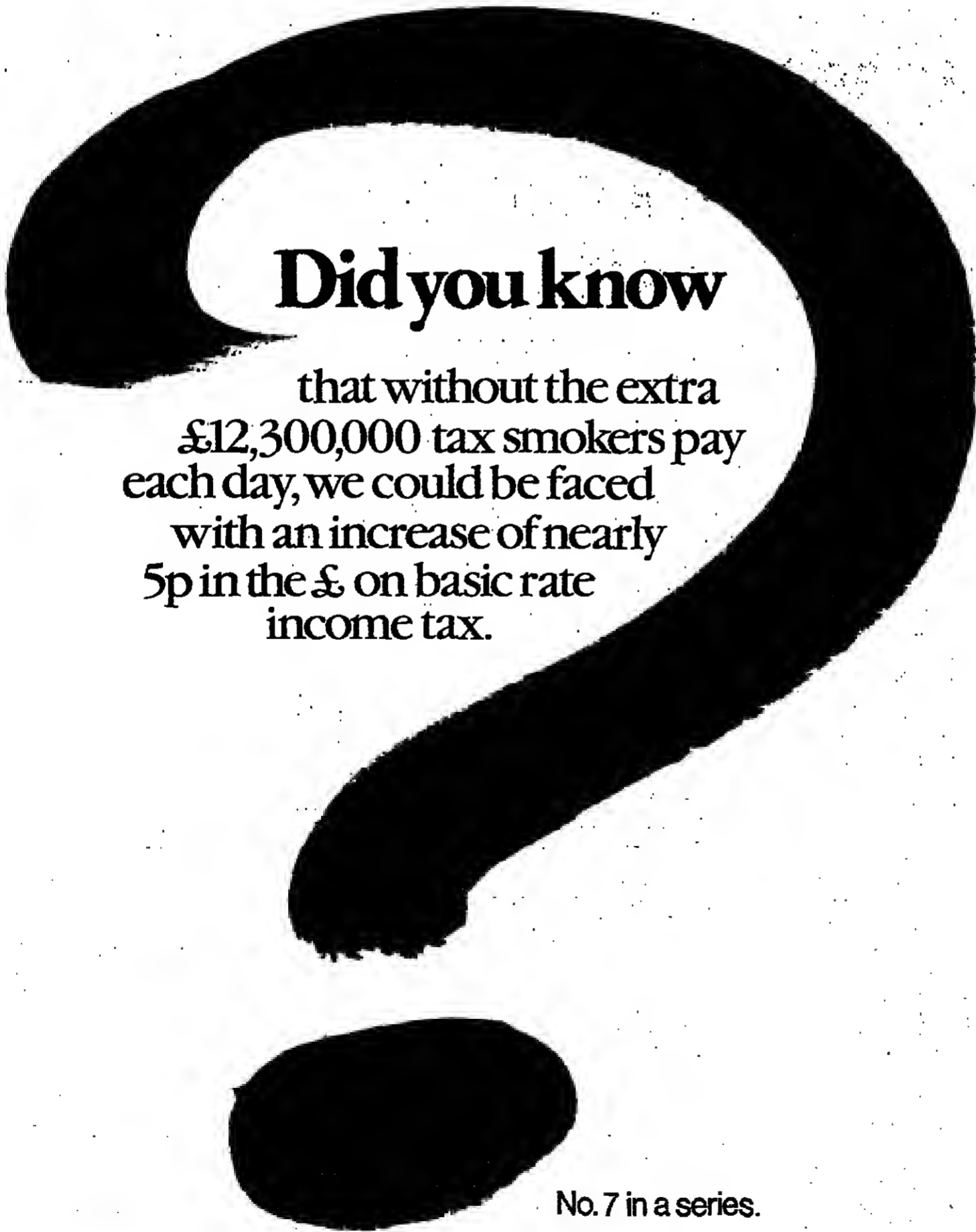
Hoteliers fear youth hostel challenge

By Ronald Fax

Hoteliers in the Lake District fear that a youth hostels plan to improve their standards and service will take trade away from local hotels.

The Ulswater Association, a group of local businessmen in the tourist industry, have complained to the Youth Hostels Association (YHA) about a new policy which, they claim, would introduce waitress service at hostels, and increase the scope of hostel shops, allowing them to compete with outside traders. How long would it be, the association asked, before youth hostels had bars?

Speaking up for smokers.



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Greater role sought for Tory women in politics

By Philip Webster

At the 1931 general election, in the heady days after the achievement of equal suffrage, the Conservative Party fielded 16 women parliamentary candidates and 13 of them got to Westminster.

On June 9 this year, 38 Tory women, the highest total, but still well below the Labour Party figure, were sent into battle. Again just 13 were successful. Only once in the past 50 years, in 1970 when 15 Conservative women were elected, has the tally been exceeded.

The Conservatives' parliamentary female representation is disgracefully low, according to Miss Emma Nicholson, the party vice-chairman with responsibility for women. But paradoxically the figures tend to obscure the influence and importance of women in the party in areas other than the House of Commons.

At the local voluntary level it is commonly accepted that the Conservative machine would collapse without the efforts of women. Women play a big part in keeping the constituency Tory associations ticking over and it is they who in the main organize the fund raising events that finance them.

Although there is no central record, it is generally believed that the party has as many women members as men. In one, typical south-eastern area branch there are 194 women and 178 men.

The invisible barrier to women's progress towards Parliament appears to have been lifted to some extent in other parts of the hierarchy.

An impressive structure exists within the party that enables the views of women on all political issues to be made known to the Government, a crucially important exercise as, according to the polls, more women than men vote Conservative.

Women's committees exist at branch, constituency and area levels. The chairmen, plus three others from each of the 12 area committees, make up the powerful Conservative Women's National Committee. This committee meets four times a year and its opinions are passed on directly to ministers including Mrs Margaret Thatcher by Miss Nicholson.

Miss Nicholson sees her task as getting more women to vote Conservative, more women into the party and more women into Parliament.

bers of women who do not naturally gravitate to us, who should do that must mean that we are at fault in not organizing ourselves properly. We must seek their political views and learn more about what they think," she says.

But the big weakness is Parliament. Women want to see more female MPs but there has been little progress towards that goal. Discrimination is a significant factor.

No one knows that better than Miss Nicholson, who went before 15 constituency selection committees between January and May this year in a futile search for a seat and was told at different times: "We would have loved to have voted for you, but this constituency would never have a woman."

Or "We want you to know that the committee would like you to go on looking for a seat."

Miss Nicholson says, however, that the only way such obstacles can be removed is by more women putting themselves forward as candidates.

"We have to do it by sheer weight of numbers. At the moment we are making it easy for the committees to pick men. It is our job to persuade able women to offer themselves as candidates."

Women have their own barriers to tear down as well, according to Miss Nicholson. Many fear that by being forceful, determined and dynamic qualities associated with becoming an MP, they risk losing their femininity. "That need not be so," she says. "No one shows that more than the Prime Minister who has retained her own femininity and warmth."

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Rates protester on second jail hunger strike

A man who almost died last year after 47 days of hunger strike has been sent to prison again for not paying a rates bill.

But yesterday, after starting another hunger strike at Horsfield Prison, Bristol, Alfie Munro, aged 55, accused magistrates of trying to stop him starving himself to death, by sentencing him to just 45 days.

Speaking to a reporter during prison visiting time, he said: "I was weak at the start and I may well die within that time. I'm prepared to if necessary."

Press Council criticizes Sun articles on CND

The style and content of an article in *The Sun* criticizing CND sympathisers might have been appropriate to trenchant editorial comment but not a news report, the Press Council said today.

The council upheld a complaint by the Northern Friends Peace Board against *The Sun*. It said the article seriously misrepresented the group's activities by suggesting they were part of a Soviet-financed campaign.

Mr Rowland Dale, of Leeds, secretary of the peace board, complained that the story grossly maligned and misrepresented its work.

سكذا من لامل

Golf course assassination threat

Reagan assailant charged

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

An armed man who crashed his pick-up truck through the gates of the golf course in Augusta, Georgia where President Reagan was playing was charged yesterday with threatening the President's life.

He was taken under strong guard to hospital after being taken ill while being questioned by the police. He was feared to be suffering a heart attack and was given oxygen on the way to hospital. A doctor there said the man, Mr Charles Harris, aged 45, of Augusta, showed symptoms of acute anxiety.

Mr Harris had to make two attempts to ram his way through the 10ft gates of the course where Mr Reagan was playing golf with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Donald Regan, Secretary of the Treasury. There were no police on duty at the gate.

Mr Harris then drove to the shop next to the club house and strode in brandishing his pistol. He took five hostages, including two of Mr Reagan's staff and the shop manager. Two other people ran into a back room and locked the door. Mr Harris fired a shot into the floor of the shop, apparently to emphasize his determination and demanded to speak to the President. He was distraught but it was not clear what his grievance was.

Mr Reagan was some distance off on the sixteenth fairway and was in no immediate danger. When he was told what was happening he was concerned for the hostages and tried to speak to the gunman by radio telephone in an effort to reason with him.

"This is the President of the United States," he said. "This is Ronald Reagan. I understand you want to speak to me."

Mr Harris did not answer, and he did not respond when Mr Reagan tried again. Police surrounded the shop and a helicopter patrolled overhead. Over the next two hours Mr Harris released the hostages one by one and he was eventually arrested without violence.

Mr Reagan left the golf course in his bullet-proof car escorted by 10 anxious Secret Service men carrying sub-



All the President's men: Secret service agents escorting Mr Reagan from the golf course, and (below) a gesture from Charles Harris after his arrest.

machine guns. Mr Reagan in his yellow golf seat, was calm. A secret service spokesman said that Mr Harris was never close to Mr Reagan and there had been no immediate threat to his life. Mr Harris's life has been troubled in the past few months. A friend described him as "a mixed-up guy". He had been devastated by the death of his father and had recently been dismissed from his job after 22 years for coming to work under the influence of drink. He was divorced last year.

Friends described him as "gruff, but nice". A local sheriff described him as "a fine man".

At yesterday's Cabinet meeting, economic developments were reviewed by Mr Yigal Cohen-Orpaz, the new Finance Minister. The Government has received a morale boost for its recent economic measures in the form of support from the International Monetary Fund. Earlier this year, the IMF published a report harshly critical of the policies of Mr Yoram Aridor, the former Finance Minister, who resigned over his abortive scheme of link the whole economy to the American dollar.



Crucial test today for the Israeli economy

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The new Israeli Government's efforts to restore confidence in the shattered economy will face a major test this morning when the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange is due to reopen for ordinary trading after being shut for more than two weeks.

Members of the public have been repeatedly ex-orted by senior ministers not to indulge in panic-selling when trading resumes. Efforts have been concentrated on trying to avert a total collapse in the market for shares in the main Israeli commercial banks.

In dependent economics experts have predicted that bank shares - which in recent months have become the most popular hedge against three-figure inflation - will fall in value by about 30 per cent when trading resumes.

Apart from the plight of tens of thousands of Israeli investors who put their savings into bank shares, the banks themselves are estimated to own some £800m of their own shares at October 6 prices.

This means that the future of the domestic banking system could be severely affected by the stock market.

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Outright victory on the cards for Bjelke-Petersen

From Tony Dabowitz, Melbourne

Mr Joh Bjelke-Petersen is within a few seats of governing Queensland alone with his National Party after Saturday election which saw the Liberal Party heavily defeated.

Counting closed on Saturday night and will resume today but confident National Party officials were claiming that the party had won 41 seats and would pick up another two doubtful, which would give it a majority of one. The party had 38 confirmed seats at the close of counting.

The Liberal Party was annihilated and looks likely to save only seven out of its 20 seats, with only five seats secure when counting closed.

The Labour Party polled well and at the close of counting had 33 certain seats compared with 25 in the old House.

The gerrymander of Queens-

land's state electoral boundaries was well illustrated by the percentage of voting figures. The National Party gained nearly 39 per cent of the vote while Labour gained 44 per cent yet trailed in the number of seats it secured.

The Liberal Party's share of the vote slumped to 14 per cent. The key question is whether Mr Bjelke-Petersen will offer the Liberals a role in a coalition if he gains an absolute majority. He would only do this if he felt he needed the extra security of the Liberals' handful of seats. Any offer he made would most definitely be on his terms.

The result almost certainly spells the end of the line for Mr Terry White, the Liberal leader and the man at the centre of the dispute which precipitated the election.

It was Mr Bjelke-Petersen's

refusal to have Mr White in his Cabinet after the Liberal leader crossed the floor of the Queensland Parliament to vote with opposition which led to the long political crisis which ended with the election.

Mr White said that he took full responsibility for his party's poor showing "no fair minded person would deny we tried, but it is devastating", he said.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen, aged 72, was his usual outspoken self when he described his victory as "the first great defeat for Labour and Mr Hawke in Canberra."

The state of the parties at the close of counting was: National Party 38 seats, Liberals 5, Labour 33, Doubtful 6. State of the parties before the election: National Party 36, Liberals 20, Labour 25, Independent National 1.

£350m profit forecast for world airlines

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

The world's airlines are expected to make a £330m operating profit this year after four years of huge losses, the International Air Transport Association will disclose at its annual meeting in Dubai today. That represents a £480m improvement on last year and a £600m improvement in IATA's own forecast for 1983 made a year ago.

The signs that airlines are at last climbing out of recession is attributed by IATA to tighter cost controls, and improved traffic to many routes.

After improving 1 per cent to 445,000 million passenger miles last year, world scheduled traffic is expected to grow by 2 per cent this year, and 5 per cent a year for the next two years if the economic upturn continues.

But after meeting interest charges on the industry's huge debts, airlines are still deeply in deficit in overall accounting terms, and it will be 1985 at the earliest before they get into profitability. Last year's overall deficit at £1,200m was better than 1981's £1,280m and should be cut this year to £800m. The figure next year should be £500m, and £190m in 1984-5.

Lest euphoria takes over too soon, IATA's director general, Mr Knut Hammarskjold, says in a typically sober foreword to the annual report that while "some economic indicators give grounds for hope that the recession may have bottomed out, recovery in the near future may be fragile and possibly short-lived."

Judge bars De Lorean TV airing

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

A federal judge has ordered the Columbia Broadcasting System television network not to air five secret video tapes which purport to show Mr John De Lorean, the alleged cocaine smuggler, discussing drug deals in hotel rooms with undercover government agents.

Judge Robert Takasugi, in an unusual Saturday court session, issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting the network from showing the films and ordered a hearing this afternoon.

The order came at the request of Mr De Lorean's attorney, who said the tapes may have been given to the network by Hustler magazine.

Njonjo inquiry to open after five-month delay

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

The judicial inquiry allegations that the former Minister for Constitutional Affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo, was linked with conspiracy to replace President Moi or to overthrow the Kenya Government, is to open here on Friday.

Three judges of the Kenya High Court, led by Mr Justice Miller, who is a Guyanese, were ordered to carry out to inquiry

by President Moi earlier this year. There has been no explanation for the long delay, but general elections and the formation of a new government were completed only recently.

Mr Njonjo was a prominent and powerful government figure for many years. As Attorney-General he was close to former President Kenyatta, and after Kenyatta's death in 1978 was regarded as a key figure in ensuring the transition of Mr

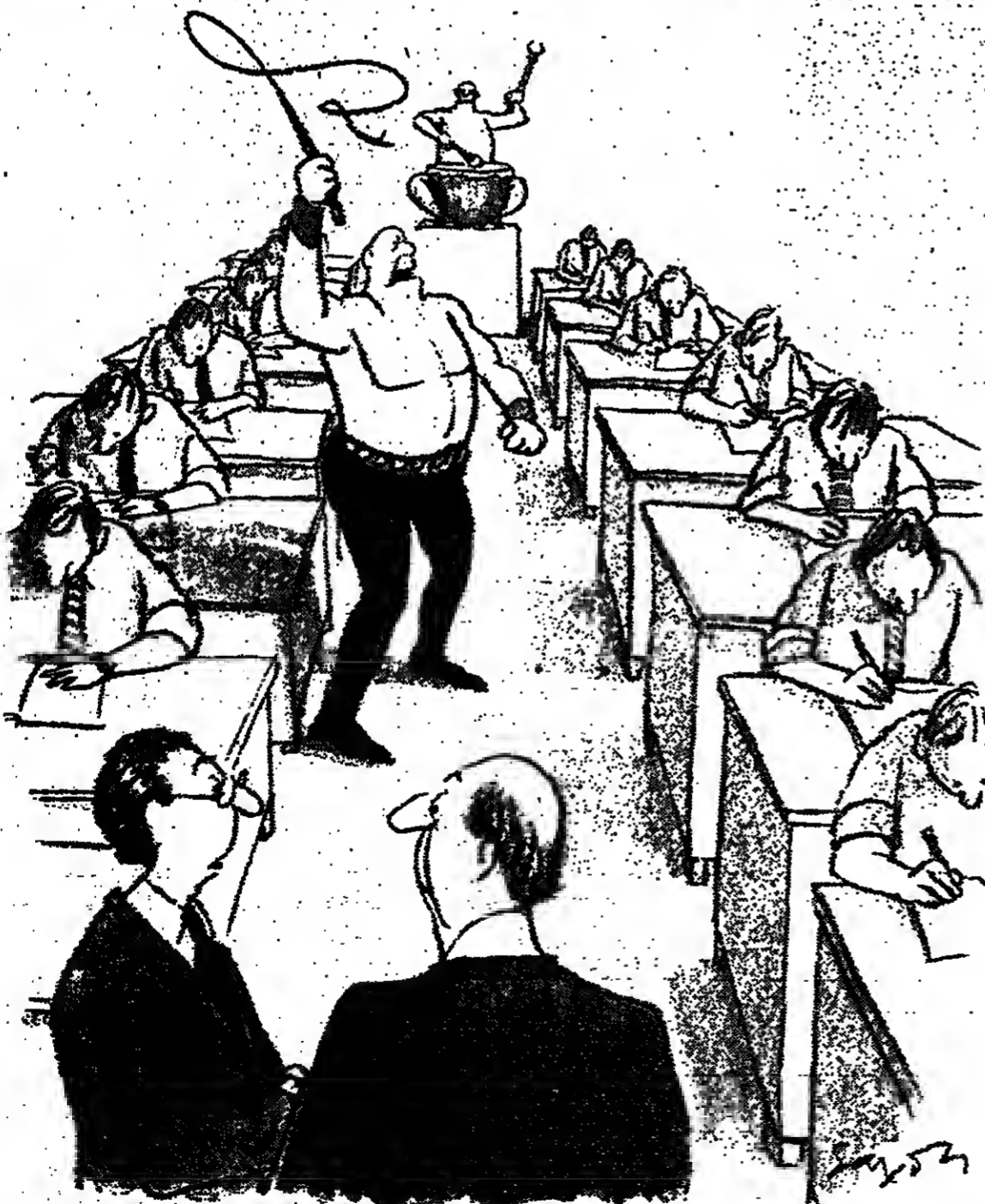
Moi from Vice-President to President.

By last year, when members of the Air Force staged an abortive coup attempt, Mr Njonjo was no longer close to Mr Moi in May the President caused surprise by saying publicly that an unnamed foreign power (which many people assumed to be Britain) was grooming another Kenyan to take over from him. This led to widespread

demands for the "traitor" to be named.

As pressure mounted the president suspended Mr Njonjo from his ministerial post. After he had resigned his parliamentary seat and been suspended by the ruling party, the judicial inquiry was ordered.

The commission's terms of reference, now issued, say it will investigate whether Mr Njonjo sought to undermine the office of the head of state.



"But Mr. Sedgwick, you did ask me to chase up more sales leads . . ."

‘Ask your doctor about some medicine as there is one that is very effective and safe.’

(Mother and Baby Nov '83)

Mother & Baby

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WHSMITH

MASSACRE IN BEIRUT

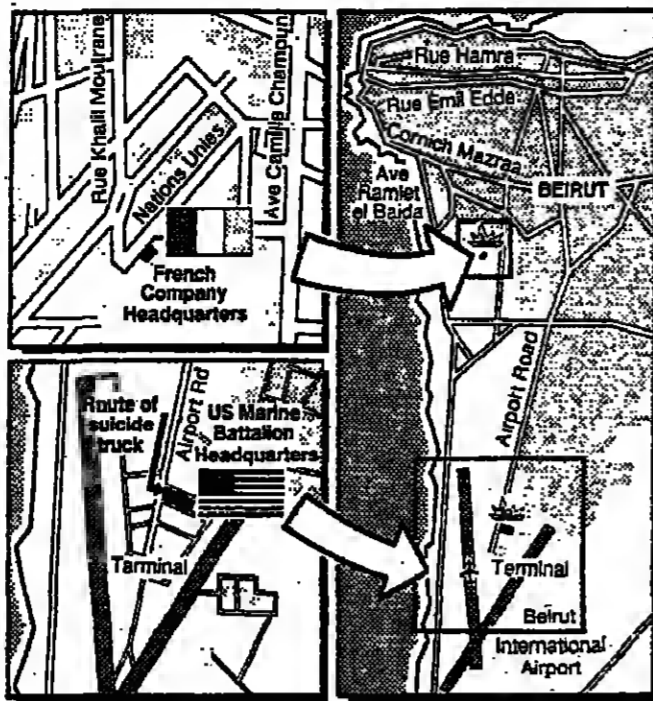
ROBERT FISK REPORTS FROM THE SCENES OF CARNAGE

Grief-stricken Marines search smoking ruins

Within minutes of the two Beirut blasts that annihilated more than 160 American and French members of the peacekeeping force, ROBERT FISK was at the carnage scenes. He sent The Times this chilling report:

The bodies of 10 marines were lined up on the ground behind a broken Jeep, neatly laid out as if they were on some kind of parade, their faces covered by tarpaulin sheets, their bare feet, black with dust, poking inconspicuously from the bottom. One of the sheets had fallen away and the body beneath was quite naked, but still covered in thick dust. They lay there, ignored by the men still searching for the living. From the curtains of brown and white smoke that rose funereally behind them came the regular, gloomy thump of underground explosions as the heavy ammunition dump deep beneath the ruins of the American Marines' battalion headquarters began to explode. A tunnel of fire 20ft high sputtered out of the rubble, and when a shell detonated itself across part of the airport, the three Marine guards standing nearest to threw themselves to the ground. "Get yourselves down," the youngest of them shouted, a boy of only 17 or 18, and it was only when we had crouched behind an ambulance that we noticed he was weeping, holding his rifle in his left hand and wiping the tears from his eyes again and again with his right. DoWn a narrow path to our left, Major Robert Jordan appeared. Never a humorous man but usually relaxed, he

was stunned, still apparently unable to take in all that had happened, crumpling over the glass and torn cement towards us with blood smeared down his arms, on his uniform, even on his face. "I've been pulling guys out," he said. There were more explosions from the heaps of masonry in front of us. A young Marine was being led away from it, a black soldier whose head lolled from side to side like a doll and whose legs gave way just as his colleagues caught him under the arms. Major Jordan had no explanation for what had happened, no careful military excuses. "Someone drove a truck with explosives into the compound," he said. "He crashed through the south gate and into the lobby of the building. He detonated the explosives inside, collapsing all the floors down on themselves. There were more explosions, a softer but deeper rattle this time, and two more Marines were brought out of the ruins, both on stretchers, one with his arm dangling carelessly over the edge, his hand trailing cruelly through the rubble and glass. It has been the same at the French company headquarters at Ramlet el-Baida a gentle hill in the southern Beirut suburbs overlooking the Mediterranean where, the nine-storey building



Map showing where the explosions took place and (right) Marines carrying another body from the rubble.

housing a company of French paratroops packed in the ground in an identical attack. The French troops had been equally appalled by what had happened, scrabbling desperately over the crushed iron and cement in a search for their comrades. You had to be careful how you walked around the ruins, for the roadway - or what was left of it - was littered with pieces of human body, hands, an arm and intestines. Lieutenant Colonel Philippe de Longpueux stood with his arms folded opposite the smoking pile, his face emotionless, his voice a monotone. "We have found three people who are alive," he said. "There are about a hundred soldiers still under there." The phrase "under there" was peculiarly chilling for the explosives had been so powerful that the entire building had shifted 20 ft sideways before crumpling to the ground. Where the bomb actually



detonated was now a smouldering pit 20 ft deep. A paratroop corporal walked up to us. "How many do you think can survive that?" he asked, as if we could provide an answer. "How many? How many?" These he put his hand just in a sad, kindly way. "Please be careful where you walk," he said, wanting to show a sort of respect for something that lay on the ground between us but at which he chose not to look. It took a long time for the

shock to disappear from the faces of the soldiers. It had the same effect on French and Americans alike. Colonel Timothy Garaghty, the US Marine commander, returned from his ruined battalion headquarters grey-faced, his jaw bunched up, his eyes still apparently focused on the horror there long after he had left the scene. The Americans were dragging tubes and oxygen bottles on to the smoking heap, clambering between cracks in

'We come to give peace and we get killed'

French survivors wept too as they searched through shattered concrete for their missing colleagues. MONA ZIADE reports for the Associated Press. "What beast, what an insane country," yelled a young French soldier as he stood on the rubble of what had been a company headquarters building of the French peacekeeping unit in Lebanon. The soldier, covered with blood, was helping to search through the debris for scores of French soldiers trapped when the nine-storey structure collapsed after the explosion. Another soldier, after watching a while from near by, hid his face in his hands and ran behind a waiting ambulance and wept. Two cranes, five bulldozers and dozens of Lebanese rescue workers assisted the French troops searching through pieces of broken concrete and dust. Most of the 100 paratroops were asleep when a terrorist drove a bomb-laden lorry into the building's underground garage and detonated the explosives. The bombing echoed a blast that occurred just moments earlier at the United States Marine base about a mile away. General Francois Cann, commander of the 2,000-man French contingent in Beirut, said the bombing of the French post came only 20 seconds after the 6.20am explosion. French soldiers guarding the site had mixed reactions. Many asked reporters of news from the marine base. One angry soldier screamed at a Lebanese photographer. "We come to give peace and we get killed."

Both the French and American warships off Beirut's coast moved very close to shore after the bombing. A French frigate, the Commandant de Pimodan, was only a few hundred yards offshore.

Britain to review role of its troops

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent. The Government will need to review the position of the British peacekeeping force in Beirut after the latest "gigantic atrocity" in the Lebanese capital, Mr Richard Luce, minister of State at the Foreign Office, said yesterday. But he was against any sudden reaction. Britain would have to reassess "dispassionately and calmly" together with the Americans, French and Italians, whether the multinational force could continue to perform a useful and constructive role. He was speaking on Radio Four's World this weekend after Mr Denis Davies, Labour spokesman on defence, had called for a government statement on the future of the British force when Parliament reassembles this week. Mr Davies said the bombings called into question "not only the safety but also the purpose of keeping the small British force in Beirut." "We are trying to respond to a request and build up peace and stability in Lebanon", Mr Luce said. "The alternative in this world is that we would just turn our backs on it and not make a modest contribution. It is always a difficult judgment and I am sure it is right to say that there is an element of risk. This is something we shall continue very, very carefully now to keep in mind." Mr Luce, who was in Beirut with the British troops last month, said that their safety was a primary consideration for the Government, and that ministers were concerned that the risk to them should be minimized. BEIRUT: In the wake of yesterday's massive bombing attacks in Beirut, all four contributing nations will be reexamining why they sent their soldiers to Lebanon in the first place (Robert Fisk reports). Were they peacekeepers or peace enforcers? And what has happened now to the peace they were meant to keep? Small though Britain's contingent is, it is based only 700 yards from the

Mr Luce: Concerned to minimize risk. Ever since its development in Beirut, the 97-strong British contingent - by far the smallest unit of the multinational force - has been billeted in a half-ruined factory in the south-eastern suburb of Hadeith, at first in Israel's area of occupation and then, after the Israeli Army's withdrawal to the Awali river, quite literally in the firing line between Lebanese Army and Phalangist guns and the artillery batteries of the Druze militia. A Squadron of the 1st Queen's Dragoon Guards is an armoured reconnaissance unit equipped with Mark 2 Ferret scout cars armed with Browning sub-machine guns. They also have Bren guns, Carl Gustav anti-tank weapons and Browning machine guns as well as their regular 7.62 self-loading rifles and Sterling submachine guns.

Who's Who in Lebanon conflict. Government: Led by President Amin Gemayel, a Maronite Christian. Other groups represented, but accused of Christian domination. Army: Tentative control in Beirut and fragments of Chouf Mountains. Muslim majority in ranks. Christian majority in officer corps. Sides increasingly with Christian Phalangists. Multinational Force: 5,400 troops from US, France, Italy and Britain, backed by offshore fleet. Bolsters the Government's authority. Maronites: Most powerful community, Western-leaning, with 25 per cent of population. Provides both the President and the Commander of the Army. Fighting force is Phalange or Kata'ib, including some orthodox Christians (8 per cent of population). Druze: Muslim sect with 30 per cent of population. Its 'Amal' (hope) militia allied with Druze. Leading figure Nabih Berr, Beirut Amal chief. Shiite: Sect of roughly 7 per cent population, split from main Islamic streams in 11th century. Aided by Syria, Libya and P.L.O. Led by Wafiq Jumblat and Progressive Socialist Party militia. Mountain strongholds. Palestine Liberation Organization: Forces in Lebanon split between loyalists of chairman Yasser Arafat; confined to northern Tripoli area, and Syrian-aided dissidents under Colonel Abu Moussa and Mr Abu Saïd. Arab: Occupies south Lebanon on vague Abu Mawass line and into central Bekaa Valley. Syria: Occupies north and east Lebanon. Armed by Russia. Seeks to destabilize the Gemayel Government.

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مكتبة من زلازل

AND THE WORLD REACTS IN SHOCK AND HORROR AS BOMB TOLL RISES

MASSACRE IN BEIRUT

A hideously malevolent action, says Howe

From Ian Murray, Vouliagmeni, Greece
 "A hideously malevolent action by any standards", Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said angrily when he heard of the Lebanon bombings. He was at the informal meeting of EEC foreign ministers at Vouliagmeni, which he said had been overshadowed by the event.

This serves to underline the price that the West is paying on a very broad basis in trying to promote peace and reconstruction in what are obviously very dangerous circumstances.

The fact that European countries were determined to go on playing an effective role in the "peace-keeping, peace-seeking force" demonstrates that what is going on is not an exercise in US imperialism.

M. Claude Cheysson, the French minister, was obviously very shaken. "It is not just painful, but awful", he said. "It is mad. One gives a better

chance to this country to be unified and these people have the audacity to kill the peacekeepers just to satisfy their ambitions."

France, he said, was not used to giving up. Its soldiers he believed, had finished their mission in Beirut "as the Lebanese army has shown its efficiency. When we are attacked one can ask if our military force is still necessary."

He was careful to emphasize the difference between the role of observers and that of the peace-keeping force. In his view the political rather than the military role was the more useful.

Mr Yannis Haralambopoulos, the Greek Foreign Minister, who chaired the meeting, said that his country still intended to send observers to monitor the ceasefire, as had been requested by the Lebanese Government.

Before they went, however, details about their legal status, where they were to be posted

and what their mandate would be had to be settled.

There was similar determination from Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian minister, to send the observers requested from his country. He reported that a small group of Italians were already in Lebanon, scouting out on the spot the best positions for setting up observation posts.

There was full support from all the ministers present for the Greek and Italian observer force, although this will in no way actually serve in the name of the EEC, which has no military competence.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German minister, urged that it was high time to resume the Euro-Arab dialogue, which has been very silent in recent years. Greece, which has been unable to win EEC support for fuller talks in the Arab countries, in its role as President of the Council, is nevertheless sending its Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Karolis Papoulis, to Syria and Beirut to explore the possibility of a closer dialogue.

● **ROME:** President Berlinguer's response was to send messages to the American and French presidents through their embassies here (Peter Nichols writes). Senator Giovanni Spadolini, the Minister of Defence contacted the headquarters of the Italian contingent in the Lebanon asking that condolences be delivered to the American and French commanders.

● **DUBLIN:** The Irish Government, which has 600 peacekeeping troops in Lebanon, reacted sharply. The Foreign Minister, Mr Peter Barry, said: "I am appalled at the incident and the extent of the loss of life. My Government condemns this attack on troops sent to help and keep the peace in Lebanon."

● **LIBYA:** In Libya, a political commentator on official radio called the attacks "a bold operation by patriotic and progressive Lebanese forces" and a direct response to "the billy-club policy conducted by the United States in Lebanon."



The horror: Rescuing a wounded Marine from the ruins. Libya described the bombings as "courageous actions by nationalistic".

Hernu flies out with a pledge

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Mitterrand was in constant touch with Beirut throughout the day, and was also in contact by telephone with President Reagan. M. Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister and M Charles Hernu, the Deputy Minister, sent their condolences to their American counterparts for the even greater loss of life among the American contingent in Beirut.

M. Hernu, who flew out to Beirut yesterday morning said it was too soon to ask about the future of the French forces only a few hours after such an "abominable and cowardly attack". M Cheysson added later that France was not used to succumbing to pressure, but was asking itself whether militarily its force was necessary.

An opinion poll last month showed that 56 per cent of the public disapproved of the sending of French troops to Lebanon, and nearly two-thirds considered that France's obligations towards its former mandated territory did not warrant the loss of French lives.

Mgr Jean-Marie Lustiger, Archbishop of Paris, said: "The ordeal undergone by French troops must not lead to a cowardly abandonment of the

objectives of peace." It was not enough to talk of "an act of folly and irrationality". One should rather speak of "crime, calculated hatred and the murder of a distant hope of reconciliation".

In accordance with its threat to take counter-measures if French forces came under attack, the French had immediately sent out fighter aircraft to destroy the batteries from which the fire came. This time, however, the attack in the form of a lorry loaded with explosives which was blown up within the barracks would appear to rule out any similar riposte.

Mr Walid Jumblatt, leader of the Druze opposition, said in an interview from Amman with Radio France International that it might be "disastrous" if France pulled its troops out of Beirut because they occupied strategic positions in the city and above all because they gave confidence to the Lebanese and Palestinian populations and to the refugees.

The presence of the Americans was "quite a different matter". But he nevertheless wished to denounce the attacks against both the French and the Americans, he said.

Why the force is there

From Our Own Correspondent Beirut

Israel's invasion of Lebanon last year drew the multinational peacekeeping force into Beirut, first to assist in the evacuation of Palestinian guerrillas and then again after Israel's Phalangist allies had massacred hundreds of Palestinian civilians in the capital.

President Reagan committed 1,600 American Marines to protect the population of west Beirut and to support the new Government of President Amin Gemayel 13 months ago. They were joined by 2,100 Italian troops and 2,000 French soldiers. Britain sent a 97-strong armoured reconnaissance unit to reinforce them last February.

Like most foreign armies in Lebanon, the multinational force enjoyed a period of security immediately after its arrival. Italian troops dated local girls, US Marines could be found drinking in the city's bars and French soldiers could be discovered shopping in Hamra Street.

But when Mr Gemayel's Government began to employ Phalangist advisers and started a series of arrests of Palestinians and Lebanese Muslims, opposition leaders in Lebanon, together with their more ruthless militia followers,

identified the international troops with the Phalange.

A series of grenade attacks and car bombings against French soldiers was a precedent of trouble to come. Once the Lebanese Government signed its unofficial peace treaty with Israel last May, President Assad's Government in Damascus condemned the Gemayel administration and claimed that the multinational

force was part of a Nato plot to take Lebanon out of the Arab world and threaten Syria.

French and American Ambassadors in Beirut meanwhile pleaded with Mr Gemayel to prevent further arrests by the Lebanese Deuxieme Bureau on the grounds that this contradicted the multinational force's mandate to protect the people of west Beirut.



The despair: President Reagan arriving at the White House. American diplomats blame Syria and Iran.

Three die in clash over Lebanese arms cache

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem

Three Lebanese civilians were killed, a number injured and one Israeli soldier wounded yesterday in the worst outbreak of violence in several months between the occupying Israeli Army and residents of southern Lebanon.

According to the version of events provided by Israel's military command, the violence erupted after Israeli soldiers discovered a large arms cache in a private house near the village of Sarafand, south of the Zaharani river.

The Army claimed that groups of rioting villagers wielding knives, iron bars and heavy objects menaced the Israelis as they attempted to arrest residents of the house. Israeli military reinforcements were brought in.

Details of how the three Lebanese were killed were not given.

Meanwhile, the severity of the bombings of the multinational force in Beirut overshadowed yesterday's regular session of the Israeli coalition Cabinet and prompted one senior minister to hint of indirect Soviet involvement.

Israel radio reported that Dr Joseph Burg, the Interior Minister, said after the meeting that it seemed that what he described as "the long hand of Moscow" had been involved. He also described the attacks as an incentive for a quick return to stability and pacification in Lebanon.

Dr Burg's remarks were interpreted as suggesting possible Syrian involvement in the bombings. Mr Dan Meridor, the Cabinet secretary, referred to an article in last week's Washington Post which he said had quoted Middle East experts as summing-up the latest US Administration's attitude to events in the region.

The Syrians were said to be not interested in the peace process, but were waiting for more Marines to be killed so that the US would tire of remaining and leave Syria to "take over the whole show".

Among ordinary Israelis, there was a widely-voiced fear that the loss of so much American life might prompt the Reagan Administration to withdraw the Marines, thereby leading indirectly to possible renewed Israeli involvement in the area north of the Awali river, to which the Army had recently withdrawn.

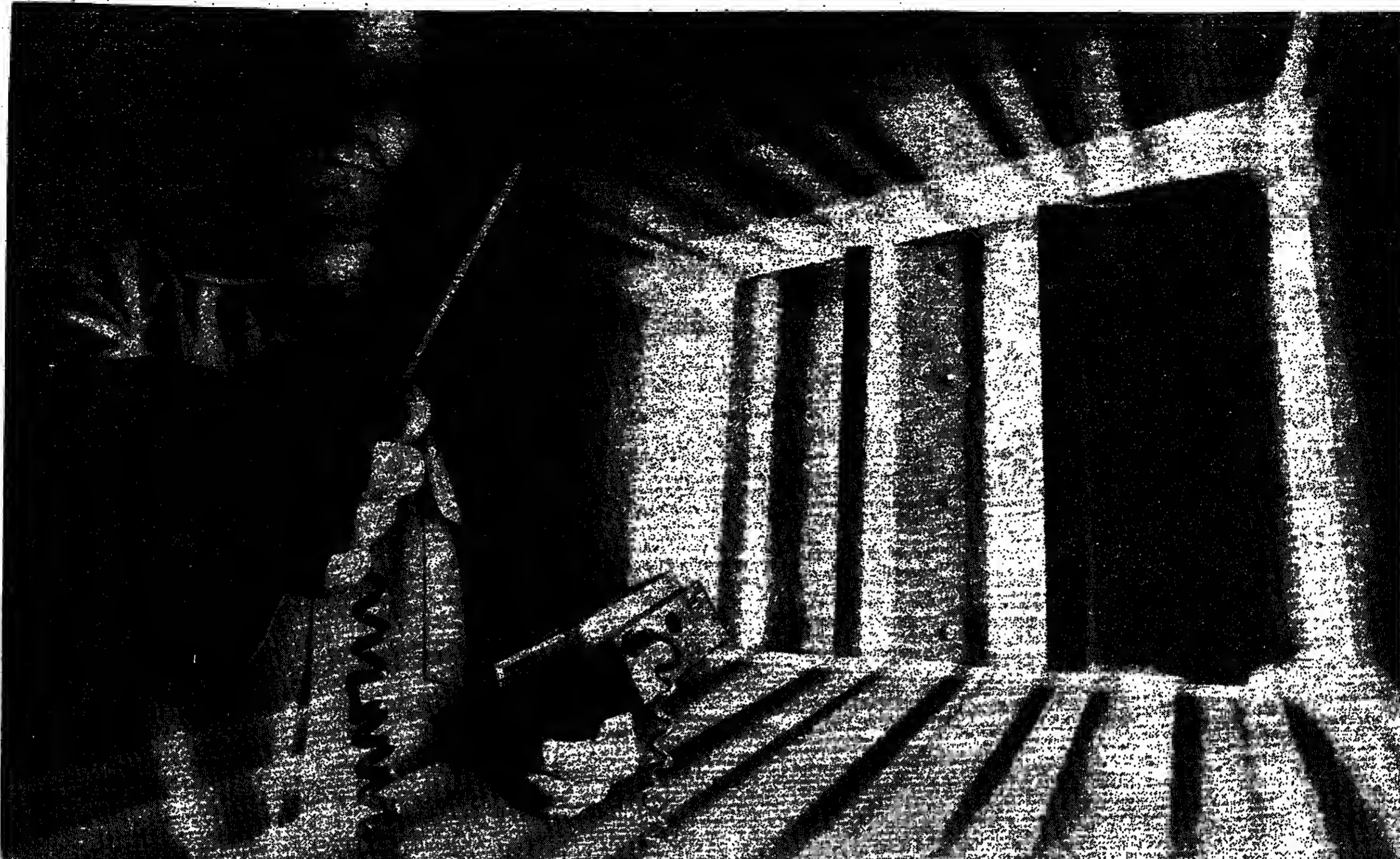
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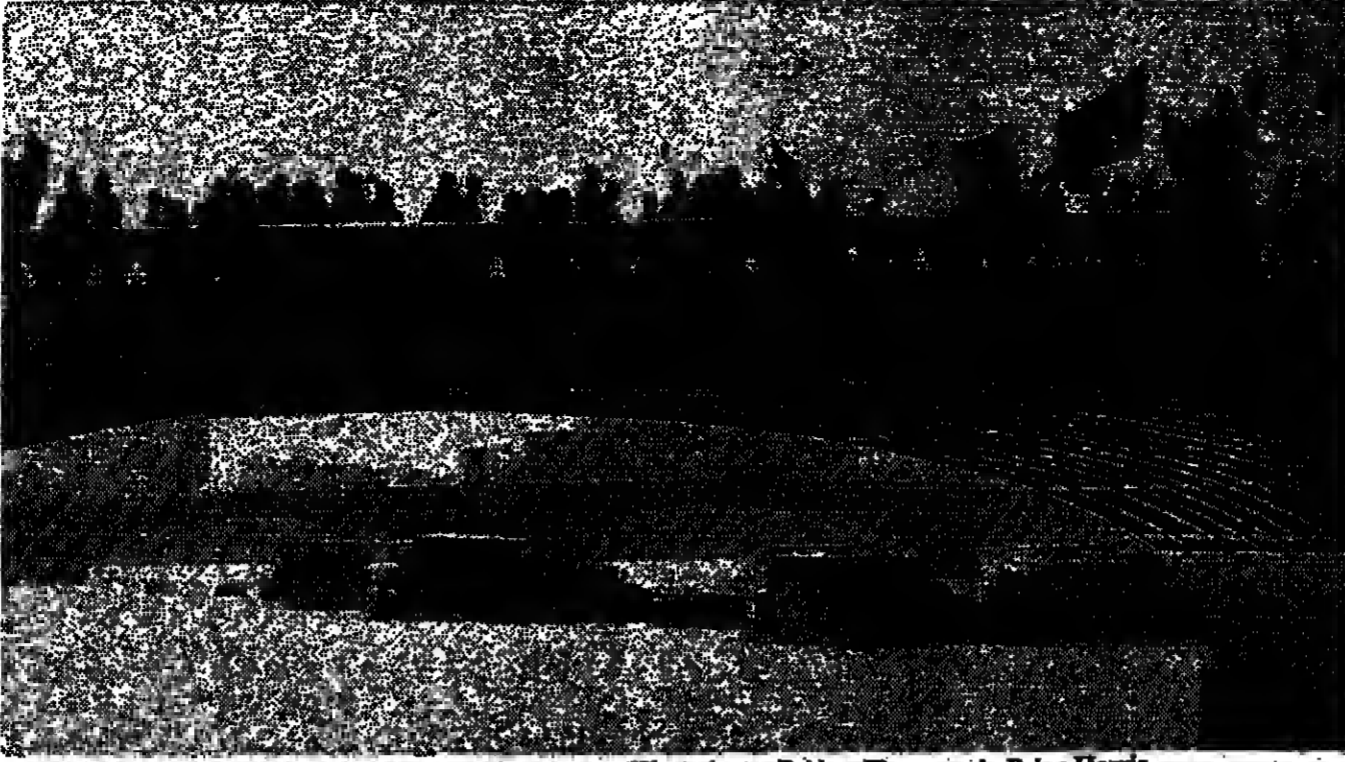
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European peace movements on the march against nuclear missile deployment

Cheers and boos as Brandt urges rejection of new weapons

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, told a gathering of at least 200,000 people here on Saturday that it was the time to say no to new nuclear weapons. Germany did not need more means of mass destruction, but fewer. The former Chancellor, the most important speaker at the anti-nuclear demonstration organized by the peace movement, expressed "bitter disappointment" that no political will for agreement had been shown at Geneva. "Many people who were of good faith feel they have been made fools of."



On the march: London protesters cross Westminster Bridge. Photograph, Brian Harris.

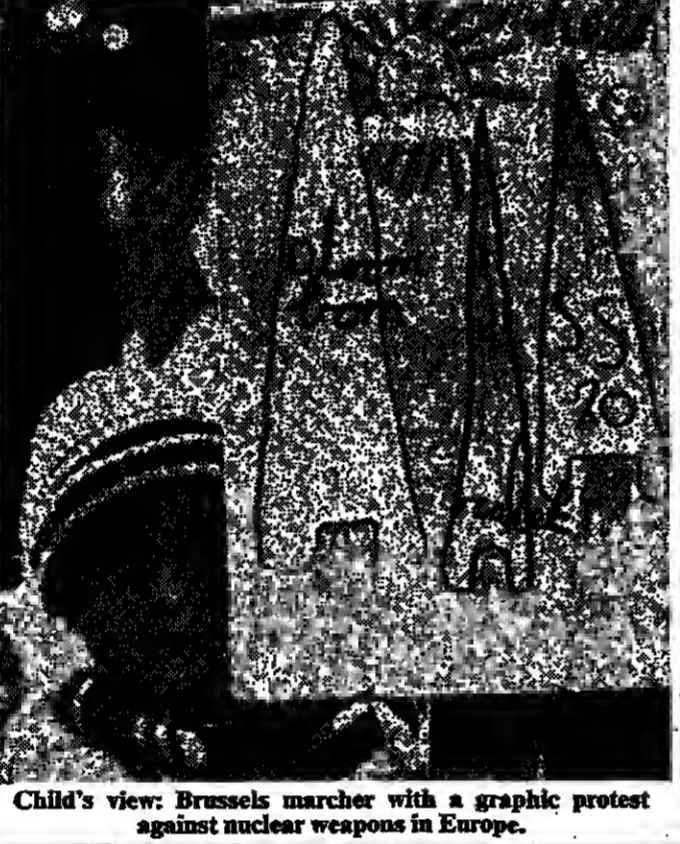
CND army takes London by storm

By a Staff Reporter

More than a quarter of a million people marched through central London on Saturday under the banners of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to sing and make speeches about nuclear arms and to protest at the deployment of cruise missiles. The demonstration "put paid to the notion that the peace movement was on its last legs," Mrs Joan Ruddock, the chairman of CND, said yesterday. It was one of the largest political demonstrations in recent times. CND leaders achieved what they regarded as an important morale boost in the anti-nuclear movement as in swaying public opinion.

Observers and marchers agreed that the event was well marshalled, at the expense of London motorists and bus users who suffered diversions and delays in the central area until well into the evening. Mr Illyd Harrington, the deputy leader of the Greater London Council, praised the police. "Everyone from the assistant commissioner to the volunteer special constables showed tact and friendliness in the very best traditions of the London bobby."

On their way past the Cenotaph in Whitehall, CND officials laid a wreath of carnations and chrysanthemums dedicated to the "victims of all wars." At the top of Whitehall, there was a small counter-demonstration, including Mr Llywelyn Iwan, the son of the American Congressman killed when the South Korean airliner was shot down by Soviet fighters two months ago. CND leaders were yesterday convinced that the demonstration had confounded government hopes that the peace movement would disappear. Mr Roger Spiller, the vice-chairman, said the scale of the London demonstration, taken with events in other European cities, was so great that President Reagan would be unable to ignore it.



Child's view: Brussels marcher with a graphic protest against nuclear weapons in Europe.

Andropov illness more convenient than serious

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Despite rumours of an impending Warsaw Pact summit in Moscow reports were still circulating at the weekend that illness rather than a deliberate change of plan had forced President Andropov to cancel a trip to Bulgaria this week. Informed sources denied the illness was serious, however. Dr Evgeny Chazov, Mr Andropov's personal surgeon, has been attending a seminar in Moscow for the past week and his services have not been required. Mr Andropov is reported to have taken one of his periodic rest cures. On the other hand the Soviet leader has also cancelled a trip to Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. Some observers believe his recurrent illness has proved convenient, since Mr Andropov does not want to make major public pronouncements at a time when the Soviet Union is keeping the West guessing over its intentions at the Geneva arms talks.

Bankruptcy notice calculated to perplex and mislead

Divisional Court

Buckley v National Westminster Bank plc

Before Mr Justice Walton and Mr Justice Nicholls

[Judgment delivered October 20]

Even though the prescribed statutory form of bankruptcy notice might itself be calculated to perplex and mislead the debtor, that was not sufficient to make a bankruptcy notice in that prescribed form invalid. Mr Justice Walton and Mr Justice Nicholls sitting in the Divisional Court in Bankruptcy in the Chancery Division, dismissed an appeal by the bankrupt against the refusal of the Registrar of the Warrington County Court on June 22, 1983 to set aside the bankruptcy notice made on November 30, 1982. The bankrupt in question, Mr David M. Marks, had been served with a bankruptcy notice in the prescribed form No 213 in Appendix 1 to the Bankruptcy Rules (SI 1982 No 2113).

It was also true that Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor, in *In re a Debtor No 75 of 1982* (May 15, 1983) unreported had already criticized the statutory forms of bankruptcy notice in that aid in other respects for their lack of clarity, and expressed the opinion that they ought to be re-drafted. He had also said that they seemed to be drafted in a way which would be calculated to perplex or mislead the debtor. Nevertheless, section 2 provided that a bankruptcy notice should be in the prescribed form. That was mandatory. And the bankruptcy notice in question, although criticized by Megarry, was not in fact in the form prescribed by the Act. There was therefore no scope for a court to hold it invalid. That was so in spite of *In re a Judgment Debtor* (1980) 2 KB 474 which held that a bankruptcy notice had penal consequences and as regarded substantial matters had to be strictly construed; that a notice calculated to perplex or mislead the debtor was invalid and should be set aside. His Lordship considered that what a debtor in such circumstances in fact ought to do, was to apply to

Late amendment of claim disallowed on appeal

Emm v Mstapha

Court of Appeal

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Goff, Lord Justice Goff and Lord Justice Robert Goff) on October 18 allowed a defendant's interlocutory appeal against a trial judge's decision to allow an amendment to a statement of claim on the first day of the trial.

The plaintiff, who was the defendant's son, sought to set aside a transfer of property when he had a house to the defendant in 1971 for £4,000 after being advised by a solicitor who acted on behalf of both parties. The plaintiff's original claim was that he was of unsound mind at the time of the sale. On the morning of the trial the plaintiff sought leave to amend the pleadings by relying on the additional grounds of undue influence and unconscionable bargain. The judge exercised his discretion in the plaintiff's favour and allowed the amendment. Although their Lordships were reluctant to interfere with the exercise of a judge's discretion they were satisfied that he had erred because he had failed to give weight to certain matters. The effect of the pleadings which the plaintiff sought to add to introduce was to shift the burden of proof from the plaintiff in the defendant in regard to events which took place in 1971. The court should therefore have approached the amendment with caution but the judge had not referred to that point at all. The defendant was further prejudiced by the fact that the solicitor, in the absence of a witness, had taken place before the plaintiff said his property had died in 1982 and no proof of evidence had been taken from him. That evidence was now crucial to the defendant's case but it had been taken before the amendment. The appeal should therefore be allowed.

Call for 'interlocutory order' to be defined

Groves v (Mrs) Fair Estate v Cunningham

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS

In granting the defendant leave to appeal from the decision of Judge McDonnell in the Westminster County Court on August 23, 1983, Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Dillon in the Court of Appeal on October 21, said that the application illustrated the need for a definition of an interlocutory order.

It was unfortunate that there was no reference on *in re The County Court Practice 1983* to the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Salter & Co v Ghosh* (1972) 2 QB 399, which said that it was wholly unreasonable for the profession to have to scan a large number of cases in *The Supreme Court Practice*, some of which were probably irreconcilable with others. It was a waste of time and money and it brought the rules into disrepute. The matter should be considered and a statutory instrument should be prepared.

EEC foreign ministers in Athens Soviet tactics fail to split allies

From Ian Murray and Mario Modiano, Vouliagmeni, Greece

The Soviet Union has failed in its attempt to drive a wedge between Europe and the United States over the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles.

The feeling was that the Soviet Union would not necessarily withdraw from the Geneva talks, because this would make it look foolish in the eyes of the peace movement. This would be particularly damaging, it was felt, given that the US is continuing to negotiate despite the fact that the Soviet Union is currently sitting short-range SS23s in East Germany.

EEC foreign ministers, during an informal meeting here, felt that the Soviet Union could not afford to break off the arms reduction talks for long without losing credibility with the peace movement. According to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, "the judgment was that the Soviet tactic was very clearly seen to be an attempt to decouple Europe from the US and that has failed, that is getting through to the Soviet Union as well."

Several ministers expressed their sympathy with the anxiety of the common citizen reflected by the peace movement, but it was generally agreed that the best way to deal with this was to insist on a firm continuing dialogue with the Soviet Union. The discussion on East-West relations had begun with an account of his discussions with Mr Andrei Gromyko, given by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister. This should have left the Soviet Union in no doubt about the determination of the West to stick to its "firm decision".

Iraq uses rockets to retaliate

Baghdad (Reuters) - Iraq said yesterday that its Air Force and missile units had mounted raids and rocket attacks on selected Iranian targets in what it said was retaliation for Iranian attacks on Iraqi border towns.

A military spokesman said Iraq would continue "crushing strikes" against Iranian targets if Tehran repeated what he called its aggression against Iraqi territory and towns. Iraq said 116 people were killed and hundreds wounded in Iraqi missile attacks on Saturday on the Iranian towns of Masjed Soleyman and Dezful.

The Baghdad newspaper *Al-Jumhuriya* quoted the commander of the First Army Corps defending the Penjwin area as saying an Iranian offensive there had "completely failed to achieve its goals." *Penjwin lies east of Iraqi oil town of Kirkuk and just south of a finger of Iraqi territory the Iranians say they have captured in the current offensive.* The Iraqi commander, who was not named, said: "The enemy made several attempts, attacking 13 major and secondary positions since the beginning of its offensive last Wednesday. He said his troops had destroyed a number of Iranian units, including battalions from the 21st and 28th divisions, as well as armoured groups and revolutionary guards. The commander said the Iraqis had launched 80,000 men into the offensive, together with armoured and special forces.

The Grenada crisis Island calm but tense and volatile

From Christopher Thomas, Bridgetown, Barbados

The ruling 16-man revolutionary Military Council issued repeated assurances over the state-run Radio Free Grenada throughout the weekend about the well being of 1,000 Americans and other foreign nationals on the small Caribbean island. Grenada airport is still closed but a small US plane carrying two diplomats from America and one from Britain was allowed to land on Saturday afternoon. The British official, Mr David Montgomery, Deputy High Commissioner to Barbados, Radioed to the Commission yesterday that the situation on the island was "calm but tense and volatile."

Mr Giles Bullard, the British High Commissioner in Barbados, said that it was understood that about 40 British holiday-makers wanted to leave Grenada. He added that the permanent British residents would be best advised "to stay at home with the curtains drawn until the trouble blows over." As far as was known no British citizens had suffered any injury. The 13 nation Caribbean Community, a trade and political grouping, was in emergency session in Trinidad until 3 am yesterday and resumed later in the day to consider isolating Grenada by severing trade and diplomatic links. The possibility of military action did not appear to be a serious option. The 1,000-strong Grenada Army, which has sophisticated weaponry supplied by Cuba, is regarded as

More time needed on budget reform

From Our Special Correspondent, Vouliagmeni

So difficult have the negotiations for the reform of the EEC become that Community foreign ministers have agreed there must be yet a further council session devoted to the outstanding problems if the European summit at Athens of December 4-6 is to have any chance of success.

Community resources unless it is satisfied by a legally binding reform package. The ministers agreed yesterday that the special four-day Council in Athens next month will just not allow enough time to work everything out. So they are to postpone one day of the November Council meeting for a last attempt to pull together the basis for an agreement at the summit.

Gandhi delegates less sycophantic to Nehru family

Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The first party conference held by Mrs Indira Gandhi's congress (I) for three years has ended with its members ready for an election any time she should call it. Elections have to come before the beginning of 1985, and Mrs Gandhi has been testing politicians and journalists by declaring that they will come "when they are due". The general belief is that they will

take place next March or October. The party is now thought to be mentally prepared for the election, with a campaign slogan, and as many old wounds salved as possible. The theme of the successful election campaign in 1971 was *Garibi Hatao* (Get rid of poverty). In 1977 Mrs Gandhi was ousted on the single platform of hostility to the state of emergency. In 1980 she was re-elected with the slogan "Government that works."

US denies invasion plan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

United States officials yesterday rejected charges by the new military leadership in Grenada that Washington was preparing to invade the island. They said that the Navy task force, with 10 vessels headed by the aircraft carrier Independence and with 1,900 Marines on board, had been diverted from its original destination, Lebanon, towards Grenada in case it was necessary to evacuate the 1,000 Americans living there. Despite Grenadian assurances that the Americans on the island were not in danger, US officials said they were concerned about their safety, pointing out that the island's ruling junta had threatened to shoot any curfew-breakers. Most of the Americans are attached to the St George University's school of medicine

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A statement from Mark Weinberg

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Hambro Life Investment Bonds Other Investment Bonds	2,808 1,510
Other Investments	1,000
PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT SERVICE	54,829
UK Gilt Edged Securities UK Equities Overseas Securities	3,550 39,216 10,783
Capital Account Balance	2,839
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THE TIMES DIARY

Undiplomatic

A poignant scene at last week's farewell party for John Louis, the outgoing US Ambassador, at his London residence...

Eurogaetic

Tory Island is a community of 160-odd Gaelic-speaking souls getting by as best they can in the stormy Atlantic off the coast of Donegal...

BARRY FANTONI

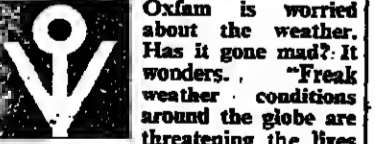


"Sorry, mein Herr, the tree is closed today."

Injured pride

My colleague Brian Jackman, who writes on travel and conservation for The Sunday Times, is the object of a subtle if belated pasting in this month's Oryx...

This is the last column for some time to be written from an exclusively male point of view...



Oxfam is worried about the weather. Has it gone mad? It wonders...

Megaphone diplomacy will not make the world a safer place Let's be realistic about Russia

by James Callaghan



Face to face with the Russians: Mr Callaghan meets the Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, in Moscow last week.

The visitor to Moscow, after an absence of several years, at once notices that people in the street are more snarlingly dressed...

Unless we in the West understand the way the Russians think about themselves, we are unlikely to devise successful policies...

only with what should be done, but with what can be done. In security matters, the dominant theme in Russian thinking is the scarring experience left by the Nazi invasion...

The essence of a successful negotiation would be that both sides emerged feeling that their security had been enhanced and not diminished...

our disapproval of the Soviet attitude towards human rights, dissidents or Jewish emigration. Across the Channel, both France and Germany are as firm as we are...

Then there is trade. The British Airways plane on which I returned home carried a number of British businessmen who had been engaged in the arduous task of seeking business in the Soviet Union...

prevent this deployment from being realized, they know there is little chance and now their main preoccupation is to gauge the nature and extent of their response...

The Russians claim that they do not despair. Pessimism and fatalism are brothers. In private conversation there is an absence of vital or ideological unwillingness to deal with arguments on their merits...

Why the work ethic is not working

Anne Sofer

Over the past few weeks commentators have been whipping up quite a froth over the issue of politicians' moral leadership...

As usual, a debate on morals gets exciting only when people assume it is sexual morals we are talking about. I have heard every possible view expressed...

Not so on the wider issue of moral leadership. Should politicians be setting values, talking about how life should be lived?

That sounds good. But it ignores the fact that economic and legislative decisions inevitably convey strong moral messages. And the moral messages being conveyed by those in power at present are as confused as their new equivocal espousal of "Victorian values"...

I recently reread Aldous Huxley's Point Counter Point, regarded as seminal when it was published in 1928 and still going strong as an essential item on any world-behind intellectual's reading list...

The harm, he admits, cannot be undone. Workers have got to spend "eight hours out of every 24 as a mixture between an imbecile and a sewing machine"...

bold your nose and do it for eight hours and then concentrate on being a real human being in your leisure. A "real" complete being. Not a newspaper reader, not a jazzer, not a radio fan...

Now while this view of the complete life seems unduly restricted (jazz is definitely deemed these days to be life-enhancing though I'm not sure about newspapers), this voice, this insistence that there is a purpose in life beyond the jobs rat race is missing today.

For instance, for all the lip-service paid to voluntary work in the community, what status does it really have? Young people in particular have been conditioned to associate it with timetable filling for the lower streams at school...

And what about education? Is the Government's message to young people: "Now is your chance! There won't be work for you for a few years but you can use the time to learn more, widen your experience, develop your skills..."

I notice with interest that Harold Macmillan has recommended that Mrs Thatcher read Jane Austen. In the context it seemed like a prescription for soothing the mind rather than influencing political direction...

This is a debate which politicians are backing away from, and in doing so are leaving millions of people with the feeling that they see no vision in them at all. This is the failure of moral leadership beside which the illicit love affairs of cabinet ministers are insignificant.

Gerald Kaufman

Yes, Prime Minister: the way to office

At approximately 235 this afternoon Nicholas Ridley will for the first time stand at the Government Dispatch Box in the House of Commons to answer parliamentary questions as the new Secretary of State for Transport...

These days they are selected either because (like Nigel Lawson, Sir Keith Joseph, Norman Tebbit, and now Mr Ridley) they have agreed with Mrs Thatcher all along...

Cabinet government used to function with a prime minister, first among equals, seeking to achieve consensus among his or her colleagues by the process of rational argument and persuasion...

Place men are generally, almost by definition, people of little quality, and since Mrs Thatcher herself is an aberration from traditional Tories, it follows that there are insufficient men and women among her parliamentary followers who can combine committed or acquired Thatcherism with genuine ability...

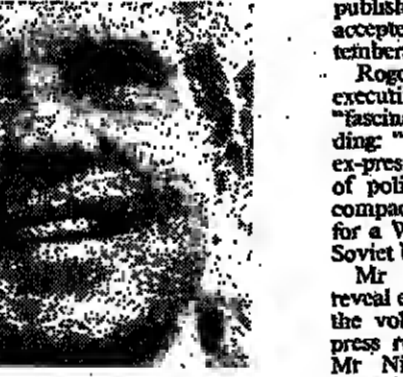
What has further depressed the level of government in the last few years is not so much that the Prime Minister needed a substitute Thatcherite to replace the lost Thatcherite Cecil Parkinson: it is that the only available Thatcherite whom she could bring herself to promote to Cabinet rank is someone whom the last Tory prime minister...

Nixon beats the press to print

In the afternoon, Mr Nixon returned to Saddle River (driven by Secret Service men) and revised the printed copy. Nine meticulously edited drafts later, Real Peace was electronically transmitted to four micro-computer diskettes and sent to the Enquire publishing company.

Each VIP recipient of Real Peace will find a small blue card explaining that "this is one of 1,000 copies of the private, limited edition of 'Real Peace'..." which is a white lie.

"We were all set to send out about five or six thousand copies," said John Taylor, a Nixon assistant. "But now that the book is coming out commercially, that doesn't make sense. We don't wish to interfere with Little Brown's efforts to promote it."



What happens to the remaining books, which were lining the halls of Nixon's suite in boxes of 200 copies each?

Far from interfering with Little Brown's efforts, Mr Nixon's actions, whether or not so calculated, exhibit the finesse of a master publicist. In early September, he sent bound galley proofs of Real Peace to 115 politicians, journalists and powerfully positioned friends...

published quickly. Little Brown accepted the challenge in mid-September.

Roger Donald, Little Brown's executive editor, called the book "fascinating" and "powerful", adding: "I can't think of an executive who has made this kind of policy statement before. It's a compact, closely reasoned argument for a Western strategy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union."

Mr Donald, who declined to reveal either Mr Nixon's advance or the volume of Little Brown's first press run, appears unperturbed by Mr Nixon's samizdat publishing operation, although he has a contractual agreement with the former president that pretudes Mr Nixon from distributing more than 1,000 free books.

"It's nice advance publicity," Mr Donald said. "Probably, he's sending them to the same people we would send them to."

Would Little Brown have thought to send copies to the Pope, the Queen or the Soviet president?

"Well," Mr Donald said, "if he gets good quotes from them, I'll be delighted."

From Moscow, at least, the reviews are unlikely to be raves. Mr Nixon describes communism as "an ideological antibiotic plague" and characterizes Mr Andropov as a "ruthless" man with "global ambitions".

As for domestic reviews, with this vanity edition, Mr Nixon has stolen a march on his critics and delivered his opinions throughout the world, unlicked around by the press.

Hillary Johnson

Getting it right for our names' sake

New words for old/Philip Howard

We have become much more relaxed about pronunciation over the past 20 years. The fetish that the only correct way to pronounce the Queen's English was that indoctrinated at the great public schools and older universities has been abandoned. The myth of BBC English has been dispensed, so that a thick regional accent, or even a thick Ulster accent, is a positive asset for a broadcaster...

We make it pretty easy to cause mortal offence in the United Kingdom, with astonishing vagaries and idiosyncrasies of nomenclature. Take the family Peppys, for example. They pronounce their name variously as peppis, peeps and pepps. The first is appropriate for the family name of the Earl of Cotnam. The second was appar-

ently that of the diarist, Samuel; and this is the pronunciation used today by the Peppys Cockrell family, lineal descendants of the diarist's sister Paulina.

Take those names, presumably Norman French, that begin with Beau. They offer as much variety in pronunciation as there are vowels to choose from: Beauchamp (beecham), Beauclerk (bocklaik), Beauieu (bewiu), and Beaudesert in Warwickshire (either boddesert or, just to be difficult, belzer).

In English generally there is a movement towards pronouncing a word as it is spelt, except foreign words, which, perhaps because of the increase in tourism, we increasingly tend to pronounce with the imagined native accent, and for names, which remain marvellously odd and idiosyncratic.

To help its staff and the rest of us through this minefield of nomenclature, the BBC has just published a

new edition of its Pronouncing Dictionary of British Names, edited by G. E. Pointon. It represents more than 30 years of research into the tricky business of British names, and lists more than 20,000 difficult names with their pronunciations drawn from the Corporation's pronunciation unit.

The Corp. claims that a mispronounced name causes more offence even than a properly pronounced improper word. And it goes to considerable pains to see that its announcers get the pronunciation of this kind of name right. "Right" means that surnames should be pronounced as the bearer of the name herself or himself prefers, and that place-names should be pronounced as the local inhabitants pronounce them.

In many cases the post office, the vicar, the library or the police station, have been consulted to establish exactly how the people who live there pronounce their village or

town name. People with difficult names have been invited to pronounce it definitively for the rest of us.

These are tricky and tongue-twisting territories, my masters, with names such as Feaveryear (fev-yeer), O'Callahan (o-ka-hoyn), and MacGilleheath (mach-gill-hee). In such cases, with the stress on the "ie" and the ch as in "loch", living in places called Postwick (poz-ick), Costessey (koss), and Troedhrif-fawch (forget it), Palgrave of the Golden Treasury should be palgrayv; other Palgraves prefer palgrayv; and woe betide the ignoramus who mixes up his Palgraves.

Not even the BBC can establish the truth in all these matters of pronunciation. Of Bobbingworth in Essex its Pronouncing Dictionary remarks enigmatically: "the post office is Bobvinger". It is a useful little word-book of etiquette. On the other hand, it might so inhibit one with the terror of names that one never called anybody by his or her name again, making do with "dear boy" or "old girl".

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CARNAGE IN BEIRUT

The latest killings in Beirut are no less shocking for having been predictable. These were not acts of war, but atrocities against peace-keepers...

the process, that this was a simple peace-keeping job that would not involve any actual fighting and would be over in a few months, once Lebanon had been helped through a difficult spot.

involved, through their respective proxies, through highly unlikely that they are in direct collaboration with each other.

Had that been made fully clear to the Americans, French, Italian and British peoples at the time, perhaps it would not have been politically possible to send the force.

That assumption neglected both the very imperfectly representative character of a ten-year-old parliament and the peculiarities of the circumstances in which the vote was taken.

In either case, it is now as impossible politically to pull the multinational force out. Militarily, there are no doubt new dispositions to be taken for its protection.

BATTLE JOINS IN PARLIAMENT

The first session of the new Parliament was opened by the Queen in June; but today's reassembly is its true beginning. As so often happens, an autumn conference season, which in prospect seemed likely to be banal and unilluminating, has transformed the political landscape since the summer of Mrs Thatcher's triumph.

party leadership began to retreat over withdrawal from the EEC and scrapping of the Poll Tax. But as well as the dialectic of democracy, personality-factors have also contributed to the change of atmosphere.

public purse that is not bottomless. The government wants to have its cake and eat it, and in a sense that is a right instinct. It knows spending must be cut and borrowing kept down if inflation is not to return and if growth is to be sustained.

Effect of cut in NHS budget

From Dr N. P. Mallick and others. The Government has a sound case in seeking for the efficient use of resources in the National Health Service. However, the relevant Act requires the Minister of Health to 'promote the effective provision of services for the treatment of illness'.

Call for justice for police officers

From Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP for Bury St Edmunds (Conservative). Sir, I had always supposed that when a person is brought to trial for an alleged offence, the press and politicians respect the sub judice rule, and each comment left the jury prejudiced and the trial, as a result, be unfair.

Implications of a nuclear freeze

From Dr J. W. Arriens. Sir, Lord Chalfont and Sir Clive Rose miss the point about a nuclear freeze. Given the overall we have at present, the precise modalities of such an agreement are unimportant; its impact would be psychological and political, not military.

Role of the GLC

From Councillor Charles Williams. Sir, The GLC no longer has the strategic role that was envisaged when the council was created. It has neither taken nor implemented any strategic decisions since the motorway box was abandoned some 10 years ago and its existence can now only be justified if it has control of London's economic and physical development to an extent that is wholly at variance with the Government's philosophy.

Planning for leisure

From Sir Ian Hunter. Sir, It is, I believe, generally accepted that in the years ahead, whatever the economic climate, people will have more time for leisure activities resulting from technological advance, early retirement and changing patterns of work.

Vote for Gibraltarians

From Mr Robert J. Pelizz, MHA. Sir, At the Conservative Party Conference yesterday (October 12) the Government announced that British citizens living in the European Community would be allowed to vote in the British and European elections.

UK cheese in France

From Mr C. L. Griffiths. Sir, French awareness and experience of English cheese is not quite as dismal as your Lancashire correspondent (October 15) suggests. If I can grossly over-simplify a few of the findings of a study we carried out last year for a leading UK producer, it would say that: English (white) cheese has traditionally been developed to be eaten with beer, butter and brown bread or biscuits at the centre of a light lunch.

The numbers game

From the Secretary of the South African Cricket Union. Sir, There have recently, and understandably, been letters from your readers and items by your cricket writers noting with apprehension the prominent roles now played by South African cricketers in both the England XI and in your county teams.

Polytechnic courses

From Professor John Westergaard. Sir, I wonder whether Mr Miller had read the HMI report on sociology and applied social studies at his former institution, the Polytechnic of North London, before invoking it in support of his sweeping accusations (October 14) against these disciplines and their validators.

Saturation bombing

From Mrs S. V. T. B. Williams. Sir, I was interested to read the tribute in your issue of October 15 of Dr George Bell, Bishop of Chichester, on the occasion of the centenary of his birth.

Taken literally?

From Mrs Bettina C. Stewart. Sir, On the window of an empty shop in Watford, which specialized in outside clothes, I saw the notice 'moved to larger premises'.

only military targets had been attacked. In the same month my mother, Vera Brittain, published a pamphlet called Seed of Chaos: What Mass Bombing Really Means, which was published in Britain by the Bombing Restriction Committee (with which Dr Bell was associated) and in the United States in February, 1944, issued of Fellowship of Reconciliation. It gave detailed facts and sources, confirming that Britain and the United States had indeed embarked on a conscious policy of destroying German and other enemy cities, regardless of the loss of civilian life.

Atlantic in newspaper articles, lectures and sermons. Only a handful of Protestant clergy, the magazines Catholic World and Commonweal and the liberal Episcopalian Christian Century gave any support to their views.

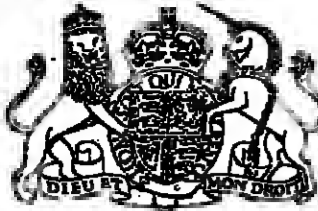
It is ironic that, after the war, research showed that Germany mobilised a far larger proportion of its population following the onset of saturation bombing than it had done before. The abandonment of the values the Allies claimed to hold dear achieved no substantial military advantage.

charges of bias levelled against them. That is inevitable because critique of conventional social wisdom is central to their role: critique from the 'right' as well as the 'left', though it is the latter which commonly attracts demands for inquiry. Only recently a demand from one voice led to such an inquiry into the work of Industrial Relations Research Unit at Warwick University and to the unit's clearance from charges of undue bias.

At the other end of the scale there are many opportunities for promoting the specialist English regional cheeses, but you need to understand your market, perhaps even to research it! Yours faithfully, C. L. GRIFFITHS, Products across Frontiers, 54 Erskine Hill, NW11, October 17.

Yours truly, JOHN WESTERGAARD, The University of Sheffield, Department of Sociological Studies, Sheffield.

Yours faithfully, BETTINA C. STEWART, Burtons Lane, Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, October 18.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 23: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this afternoon at The Observer-Sky-Sunrise Victorian Sunday in Hyde Park, London.

The Earl of Ulster is nine today. A service of thanksgiving for the life of David Nixon will be held at St Martin-in-the-Fields on Thursday, October 27, at noon.

Latest wills
£200,000 left to charity
Millicent Evelyn KING, of West Kirby, Merseyside, left estate valued at £253,574 net.

Latest appointments
Professor R. J. Harrison, FRS, formerly Professor of Anatomy at the University of Cambridge, will be the Chairman of Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) from January 1.

Marine Builders Training Trust
The following burials and services took place at the Marine Builders' Training Trust, 11, Wyvern, London, E10 6JH.

Joyce Grenfell Centre
The first Performing Arts Festival will take place at the Joyce Grenfell Centre at Clarendon Road, Clarendon School, Essex from April 12 to 21.

Landsowne Club
Mr Sandy Gall gave an illustrated talk on Afghanistan to members of the Landsowne Club on Thursday, October 20.

Curriers' Company
The following have been elected officers of the Curriers' Company for the ensuing year.

Churches caught in a war of words

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Predictions that the Church of England would quickly settle down to the new English liturgy of the Alternative Service Book (ASB) have proved untrue: the battle goes on, inexorably.

Heritage, the journal of the Prayer Book Society, contains an extended leading article summing up all that is wrong with the ASB, in strength, the editor, the Rev Peter Mollin, writes ironically, in its capacity for promoting a quiet life.

Discipline of the search for stark simplicity. It is almost too plain to be called banal, as ice is too cold to be called cool.

exuberant enough for Africa or the West Indies. His immediate suggestion is that the English liturgy should be based on the English of the past, even nationalized, abandoning the policy of one form for all English-speakers.

What he asks for above all, however, just as critics of the ASB have demanded, is a sensitivity in the language from Latin to modern English, or Cranmer to modern English, to all the subtleties and harmonies of meaning in the original.

Dinners

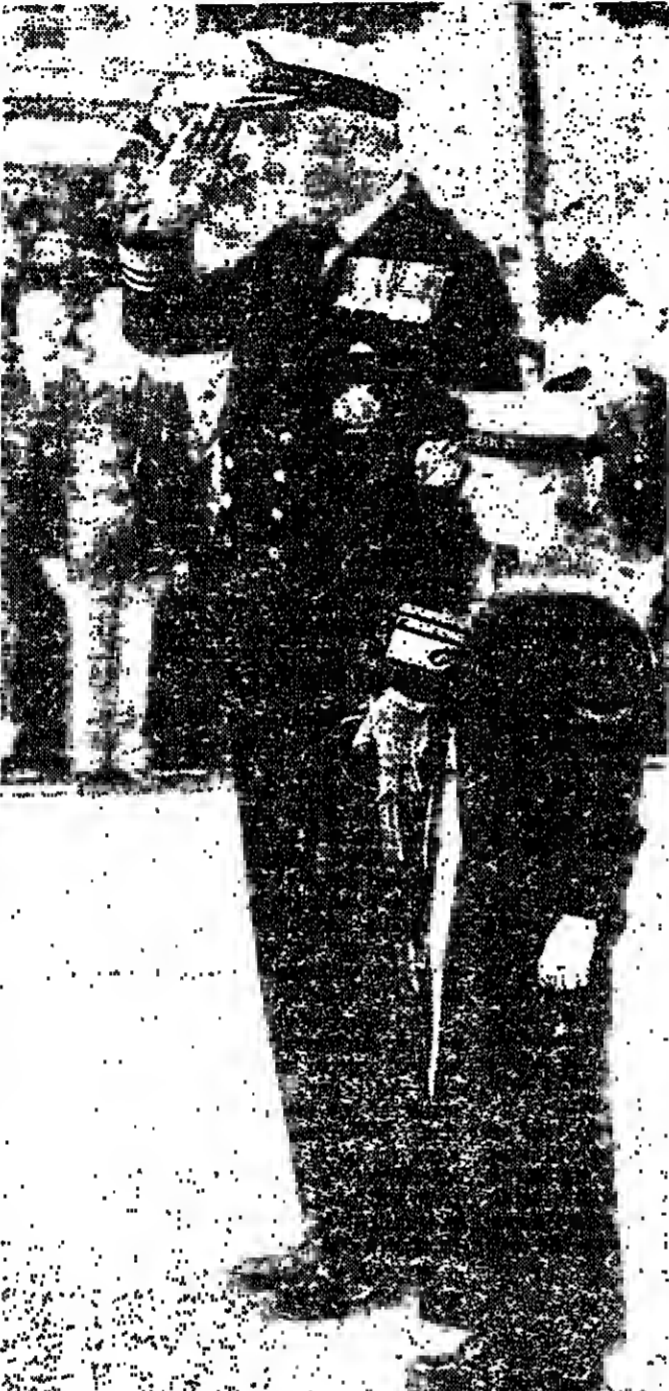
Old Bancroftians' Association
The annual dinner of the Old Bancroftians' Association was held at Bancroft School, Woodford Green, on Friday October 21.

Metropolitan Special
Sir Colin Cole, Garter Principal King of Arms, and Lady Cole were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Metropolitan Special Constabulary which was held on Saturday at the Cunard Hotel.

Service dinners

Royal Engineers Postal and Courier Services
The annual reunion dinner for officers of the Royal Engineers Postal and Courier Services was held on Saturday at Simpsons-in-the-Strand.

Dorset Regiment
Officers of the 4th and 5th Battalion, Dorset Regiment (1939-1945) held their annual dinner on Saturday at the Royal Dorset Yacht Club, Weymouth.



Sainte to the fallen: Vice Admiral Sir Ernie Pope, president of the Royal Naval Association, and Cadet Barry Wilks, of TS Oberon, at the Cenotaph after laying a wreath during the association's parade and service of remembrance yesterday. (Photograph: Tony Weaver.)

RAF Church of St Clement Danes

The Archbishop of Canterbury gave an address at a service of thanksgiving held yesterday to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the reconsecration of St Clement Danes, which is the Central Church of the RAF.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. R. McC. McFarlane and Miss E. P. Hamilton
The engagement is announced between Donald, only son of Mr and Mrs Donald McFarlane, of 94 Southbrac Drive, Glasgow, and Kate, daughter of the Rev Dr and Mrs Peter Hamilton, of Frant Rectory, Tunbridge Wells.

Mr S. B. Mather and Miss J. V. Wakley
The engagement is announced between Simon Mather RN, only son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Mather, of Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, and Jane, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. A. Wakley, of Plymouth, Devon.

Lieutenant G D Trezona and Miss J. M. Cropper
The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Colonel and Mrs J. D. Trezona, of Repute Bay, Hong Kong, and Joanne, youngest daughter of Mrs D Cropper and the late Mr L. Cropper, of Lyford Cay Nassau, Bahamas.

Marriages

Mr N. S. G. Smith and Miss L. M. MacArthur
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mary's, Stoverton, of Mr Nicholas Smith, son of Mr Roy and Dame Margot Smith, of Howden Lodge, Spennithorne, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, and Miss Lavinia May MacArthur, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs MacArthur, of Staverton Hill, Daventry, Northamptonshire, and the late Captain D. J. MacArthur.

Mr R. C. Olsen and Miss S. P. Doolan
The marriage took place in the Cathedral of St John the Baptist, Savannah, Georgia, United States, on Saturday, October 22, of Mr Richard Kenneth Olsen, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Olsen, of Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey, and Miss Shawn Patricia Doolan, daughter of the late Dr J. Joseph Doolan and of Mrs Doolan, of Savannah.

Mr H. S. Weavers and Miss L. V. F. Timms
A service of blessing was held in the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy on Saturday, October 22, after the marriage of Mr and Mrs H. S. Weavers and Miss L. V. F. Timms. Canon Edwin Young officiated at the service of blessing.

Birthdays today
Sir Geoffrey Beattie, 77; Mr P. H. Bennett, 75; Mr R. A. H. Carill, 58; the Earl of Cromartie, 79; Sir Robin Day; Lord Frank Delaney, 41; Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, 74; the Earl of Gainsborough, 69; Mr R. G. Gellhorn, 71; Colonel Sir John Gilchrist, 71; Mr Tito Gobbi, 68; Mr Wally Herbert, 49; Professor Dame Elizabeth Hill, 83; Miss Sena Jurinae, 62; Miss Margherita Laski, 62; Sir Terence Morrison-Saunders, 70; Mrs F. F. R. Prof. W. Lindford Rees, 69; Sir Robert Sainsbury, 77.

Parliament this week
Tomorrow will be the first day of the session of the House of Commons. The House will meet at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, October 24, and will begin its business at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 25.

OBITUARY

MR HARRY GRYLLE

Innovations in developing Rolls-Royce cars

Mr Harry Grylls, CBE, who died on October 17 at Pershore, Worcestershire, aged 74, was as Chief Engineer and later Technical Director of the motor car division of Rolls-Royce until his retirement in 1969.

PAUL HARDWICK

Paul Hardwick, who died suddenly on October 22 before going on to perform in Little Lies at Wyndham's Theatre in London, was one of the most accomplished actors of his period, principally in classical parts. He was 64, and had been on the stage for 37 years.

DR R. E. SMITH

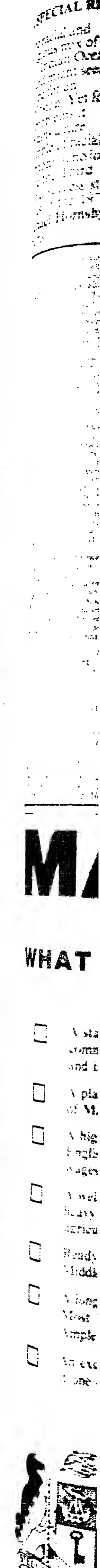
Dr Ronald Edward Smith, the distinguished physician and scholar, died at Warwick on October 18 - St. Luke's Day. He was 83.

SIR WILLIAM CHRISTIE

Sir William Christie, KCIE, CSI, MC, who died on October 15 at the age of 87 had a career in the Indian Civil Service until 1947 and was thereafter chairman and director of several companies.

Sotheby's Forthcoming Sales
If you are thinking of selling, some of our specialized sales are listed below. To allow time for the worldwide distribution of our catalogues, items should reach us before the closing dates mentioned.

Science report
How the pill can put some women at risk
By Clive Cookson
The wave of concern after Friday's publication of two reports linking oral contraceptives with cancer is the second big scare involving the pill during its 21-year history.



A SPECIAL REPORT

Mauritius

A lurch back to the West

The racial and religious mix of this tiny Indian Ocean island might seem a recipe for an explosion. Yet for all its problems it remains a rare example of racial harmony, if no longer quite the Third World success story it was in the 1970s. Michael Hornsby reports.

Imagine a population of 960,000 people of mixed race, culture and religion which is growing by more than 10,000 a year and is packed higgler-muggler on to 720 square miles of volcanic rock in the middle of the Indian Ocean. Suppose, too, that a tiny, white minority, descended from early European settlers, controls much of the economy which in turn is almost entirely dependent on a single crop vulnerable to the vagaries of weather and world prices. A fair blueprint, it might be thought, for disaster.

Mauritius is all these things, yet somehow manages to survive with style. Despite terrifying social pressures and tensions, it remains a model of racial harmony and must be one of the least violent places on earth. At the end of August, in the second general election in just over a year, the island state handsomely confirmed both its reputation as one of the very few functioning, multi-party democracies outside Western Europe and North America, and the refreshing unpredictability of its electorate.

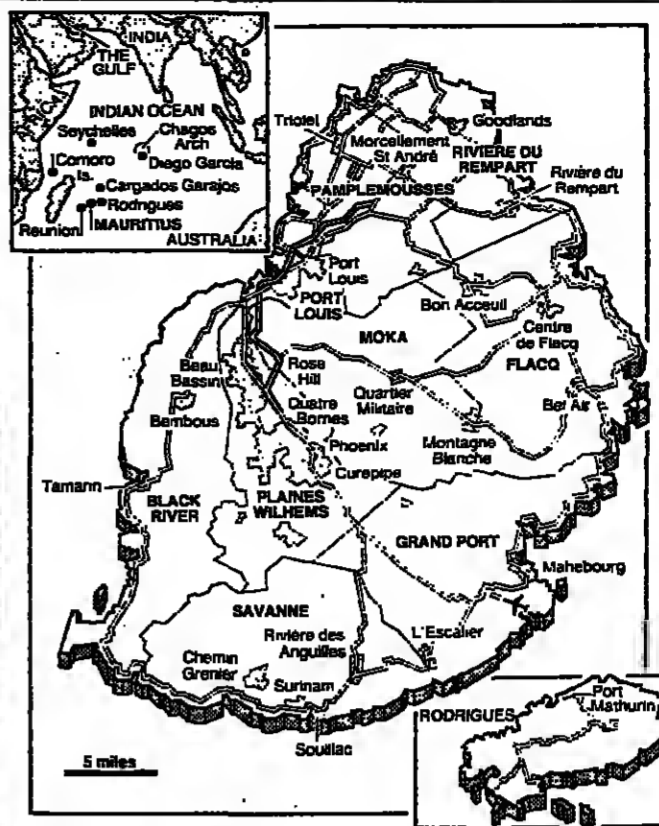
Lying 500 miles to the east of Madagascar, Mauritius is the coral-fringed remnant of an eroded volcano. It has several island dependencies, of which the most important is Rodrigues, another volcanic outcrop some 350 miles to the east, about 40 square miles in area and with some 35,000 inhabitants.

It was colonized fitfully by the Dutch during the seventeenth century and settled permanently by the French in 1721, who left an indelible imprint of their language and culture, established the sugar plantations and brought in African slaves, whose mixed-blood descendants now form the Creole population. Their pugnacious French patois is the nearest thing to an indigenous *lingua franca*.

The French were bundled out in 1810 by the British, who in one of their fits of public



Sweet and sour. Harvesting sugar - a crop on which the island is still largely dependent but which now yields lower prices, not least because doctors urge the world to use less



morality abolished slavery and instead imported indentured labour from India. Independence was granted in 1968, with the Queen remaining as head of state, though that role may soon be ended.

A major upheaval in the island's post-independence politics occurred in June of last year when the octogenarian Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam, the Hindu doctor whose Labour Party (LP) had ruled Mauritius since independence from Britain and who had dominated the local political scene since long before that, was swept aside by a left-wing alliance led by the Mouvement Militant Mauricien (MMM). The MMM was created 13 years earlier by Mr Paul Béranger, a youthful Franco-Mauritian, who learnt his politics on the student barricades in Paris in 1968.

Sir Seewoosagar was in part a victim of his own success. During the first half of the 1970s economic growth averaged nine per cent a year, and there was generous spending on social services, with free education being provided all the way to university level. The aging Prime Minister and his hardly less elderly cabinet were overwhelmed by the rising expectations of an increasingly

well-educated and youthful population when the economic boom began to falter. Job creation fell drastically behind target, foreign investment tailed off, and a slump in the sugar industry was compounded by three successive cyclones.

The MMM of Mr Béranger, who began his career as a trade union organizer among the dock and transport workers of Port Louis, was an attempt to form a neo-ethnic, class-based party that could be used to drive a wedge into the Hindu majority support of the LP. In pursuing this goal, however, it also became a somewhat fragile coalition of minority ethnic and religious groups - Indian Muslims, the Tamil and Telegu Hindu minorities, Creoles and a sprinkling of whites. These internal tensions, masked to some extent while the MMM was in opposition, came to the surface when the party achieved power.

The victory of June 11, 1982, was a famous one, the MMM alliance capturing all the 62 directly elected seats in the small parliament. Within weeks, however, the alliance's leaders were squabbling among themselves. The main problem was the strong mutual antipathy

felt by Mr Béranger, who had been appointed Finance Minister in the new Government, and Mr Harish Bhoodoo, the Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the Parti Socialiste Mauricien (PSM), a small Hindu party, espousing (despite its name) a populist conservatism, which had broken away from Sir Seewoosagar's LP in 1979.

Taking the blame for economic austerity

Mr Béranger, who ever hid his contempt for the intellectual ability of some of his colleagues, also fell out with the Prime Minister, Mr Anerood Jugnauth, a 53-year-old Hindu trained as a barrister in Britain, who was the MMM's President (Mr Béranger being the party's Secretary-General). His main complaint was that as Finance Minister he was being made the scapegoat for the unpopular economic austerity measures insisted on by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank as the price of financial

aid, and for the postponement of the ambitious social welfare improvements promised in the election campaign.

The final break came in March of this year when Mr Béranger resigned with 10 of his cabinet colleagues. Mr Jugnauth thereupon formed a new party, the Mouvement Socialiste Militant (MSM), which consisted of defectors from the MMM plus most of Mr Bhoodoo's PSM. However, the realignment left him without a clear majority and he was forced to call another election on August 21. For this purpose, the MSM teamed up not only with Sir Seewoosagar's discredited LP but also with the Parti Mauricien Social Démocrate (PMSD) of the Creole leader, Sir Gaetan Duval, a flamboyant right-wing figure.

This, on the face of it, was a remarkable volte-face. Only a year earlier both Mr Jugnauth and Mr Bhoodoo had been denouncing Sir Seewoosagar as a reactionary old fogey. For his part, Sir Gaetan, a former foreign minister, had never before shown the slightest sympathy for the socialist aspirations of the MSM or for the leftist-tinged, strictly non-aligned foreign policy to which

it still formally adheres. But the new formation was explicable as a re-uniting of Hindu ranks and a return to traditional ethnic alliances (the LP and PMSD having worked together previously.)

Mr Jugnauth's new coalition scored a striking victory, winning 41 of the directly-elected seats and five of the eight "best loser" seats (a system devised by the British to ensure that every ethnic group gets adequate representation.) The Organisation du Peuple Rodrigues (OPR), which won the two seats allocated to Rodrigues, also allied itself with the new Government, which thus in effect commands 48 of the 70 seats in Parliament. The MMM garnered no more than 19 directly elected seats and Mr Béranger could only creep back into Parliament as one of his party's three "best losers".

The MMM did, however, make a clean sweep of the four Port Louis constituencies and also captured 46 per cent of the popular vote.

The new Government is even more of an ideological dog's breakfast than its predecessor, and it remains to be seen

whether its more compatible ethnic mix will suffice to keep it together under the strain of the painful economic policies that are unavoidable. Sir Gaetan, whose success in mobilizing the Creole vote played a key role in the election victory, is Deputy Prime Minister and has been given the task of using his business contacts abroad, including South Africa and the Far East, to drum up foreign investment and tourism. This suggests a return to something like the openly pro-western policy previously pursued by Sir Seewoosagar.

For Sir Seewoosagar, at least, there is a happy ending. On December 27 he will move into Le Réduit the splendid bougainvillea-wreathed chateau that was once the home of the island's British and French governors. Whether he does so as Governor-General or as President of the new republic of Mauritius will depend on the Government's ability to reach agreement with the opposition on the president's powers. There is no dispute about the desirability of republican status as such, but the Government majority needed to make the change on its own.

The new Government will

After a year of flirtation with leftist non-alignment, Mauritius has lurched back towards the openly pro-Western foreign policy pursued by Sir Seewoosagar and a number of other old guard LP figures are back in power, alongside their ally of earlier days, the flamboyant right-wing Creole leader, Sir Gaetan Duval, and Mr Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister in the short-lived leftist alliance that swept to victory in 1982, who remains as Prime Minister and Defence Minister in the new government.

Sir Gaetan's was, perhaps, the most astonishing political come-back of all. His Creole-dominated Parti Mauricien Social Démocrate (PMSD) was totally eclipsed in the 1982 election, when most of his following defected to the left-wing Mouvement Militant Mauricien of Mr Paul Béranger. Most of the island's newspapers wrote him off as a political has-been, but his success in mobilising the Creole vote was crucial to the victory of Mr Jugnauth's newly-formed Mouvement Socialiste Mauricien (MSM) and its LP and PMSD allies. He was rewarded with the post of Deputy Prime Minister, and it is already clear he will have at least as big a role in foreign policy formulation as the Foreign Minister, Mr Anil Gayan, an Indian lawyer who held the same post in the previous minority MSM government.

Formally, the new Government is committed to the same policy of non-alignment as its predecessor, but Sir Gaetan made clear in a post-election interview with *The Times* that Mauritius considered itself "a staunch ally of the West" and was looking mainly to Western countries to inject new vigour into its flagging economy. A change of tack has already been reflected in the new government's soft-pedalling of the emotive Diego Garcia issue. To return, Mauritius will expect increased American and British political financial and economic support.

The new Government will

Continued on page 19

MAURITIUS

AN ISLAND ON THE MOVE

WHAT DOES IT OFFER YOU?

- A stable and democratic political environment in which all parties are committed to the need to attract and retain overseas investment in commercial and industrial ventures.
- A place in the sun situated in the warm and sparkling Indian Ocean to the east of Madagascar and the eastern coast of Africa.
- A highly literate, adaptable and productive labour force speaking French and English and a sophisticated entrepreneurial class seeking overseas partners. Low wages and high quality and standards of production.
- A well developed and diverse industrial base ranging from shipbuilding and heavy engineering to precision industries, food processing, textiles and agriculture.
- Ready access to the rapidly developing markets on the mainland of Africa, Middle East, Australia and Europe.
- A long established and efficient banking sector and export processing zone. Most Mauritian products enter Britain duty free. Excellent infrastructure. Ample water and electricity, good internal communications and tarred roads.
- An excellent climate with sun, sea, mountains and waterfalls combining to make it one of the truly great tourist attractions of the world.



For further information contact:
The Ministry of Information, New Government Centre,
Port Louis, Mauritius

or
The Mauritius High Commission, 32/33 Elvaston Place, London SW 7

or
The Mauritius Investment Promotion Office, Hurst House, 157/169 Walton Road, East Molesey,
Surrey KT8 ODX.
Tel: 01-941 5144 or 5024, Tlx: 932689 IMES G.

Sugar and the social time-bomb

For much of the 1970s Mauritius was one of the Third World's unquestionable economic success stories. Between 1970 and 1976 economic growth averaged 9 per cent a year, the highest growth rate achieved by any developing country of less than five million inhabitants. Between 1961 and 1980 the number of jobs increased by 84 per cent, and those in manufacturing grew fivefold. Eight times more tourists visit Mauritius now than at independence in 1968. Schooling is free all the way to university and literacy is

high. Over the past two decades, secondary schools enrolment has more than trebled as has the number of doctors, and the proportion of children dying in the first year of life has dropped from nearly 70 per thousand live births to 33. The annual rate of population growth has been brought down from over 3 per cent to about 1.5 per cent (though it may now be rising again.) Most houses are built of concrete blocks and 90 per cent have electricity. Food subsidies are generous.

Since 1976, the pace of economic advance has slowed sharply, after a boom in the mid-1970s. The price of sugar, on which the economy is still largely dependent, has declined and stayed low, and a mixture of drought, cyclone and flood has in most recent years kept Mauritian sugar production below the 700,000 tonnes considered to be a normal crop. This year it is not expected to exceed 610,000 tonnes. In a good year Mauritius depends on sugar for more than two thirds of its foreign exchange earnings.

much as the average price of exports, Mauritius has run up a large balance of payments deficit in each of the last eight years. Ninety per cent of the island's fuel and 50 per cent of its food are imported, as are most capital goods. Even goods made locally tend to have a high import content because of lack of mineral resources. About 80 per cent of salaries and wages, it is estimated, are spent on goods or services which are wholly or partially imported.

The need for foreign exchange to finance this deficit has turned Mauritius from one of the most solvent into one of the 15 or so most indebted countries in the world in relation to the size of its economy. At the end of March of this year, the total public debt was estimated to amount to 7,785m rupees (£432m), of which 5,857m was owed to foreign banks, governments and institutions. The cost of servicing this debt in 1982-83 was estimated to be equal to between 35 and 40 per cent of recurrent government revenue.

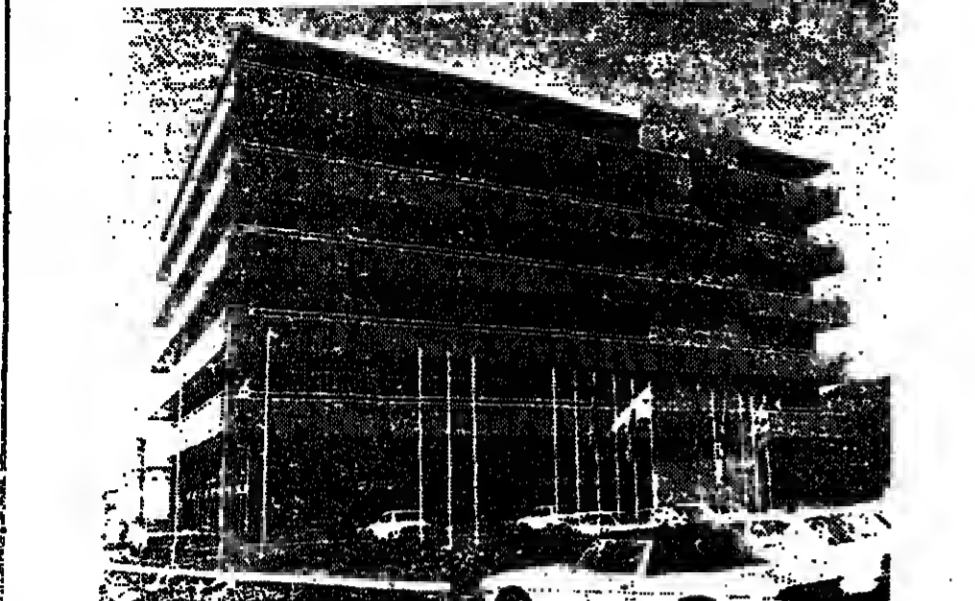
As most of Mauritius's foreign debt is denominated in US dollars, it is appreciating with the increasing strength of the American currency. The social consequences have been severe. As job creation has tailed off, Mauritius has acquired a growing pool of unemployed whose numbers are now put at about 70,000, some 25 per cent of the entire work force. More than 60 per cent of the male, and about 50 per cent of the female, unemployed are between the ages of 15 and 24, and represent a social time-bomb. It is necessary not only to create jobs for the unemployed, but also to find work for the 10,000 new entrants that are coming on to the labour market each year.

Sugar, the traditional industry, cannot solve the unemployment problem. It is already very labour-intensive, and any moves towards greater profitability and efficiency will be in the areas of mechanization and



Area:	728sq miles
Population:	968,000
of which: 65% Indian origin 20% Franco-Mauritian and Chinese 15% Creole	
Exports:	RS5496m (year ending 1982)
Imports:	RS8842m (year ending 1982)
Sugar production: (381,000 tons (1982) 618,000 tons (1983))	
Total debt:	RS7785m (1983)
of which: internal debt: RS1928m (1983) external debt: RS5857m (1983)	
Total unemployed:	70,000 - 25 per cent of work force (1983)
Rate of exchange:	£1 = 1811p rupees

BUSINESS IN MAURITIUS?



ROGERS

WE ARE IN AVIATION & TOURISM
GSA's for 14 airlines - Beachcomber Hotels - MTB (Tour Operators and Travel Agents) - Hertz/Mautonco.

WE ARE IN SHIPPING AND CLEARING & FORWARDING THROUGH
Rogers & Co Ltd (Ship Management - Chartering and Agency) - Mauritian Steam Navigation Co Ltd - Cargo Express Co Ltd.

WE ARE IN ENGINEERING
Sugar - Marine - Energy - General.

WE MANUFACTURE
Steel Rebars - Cane and Timber Loaders - Agricultural Machinery - Pesticides - Household and Industrial Detergents - Leather Watchstraps - Watches and Watch Movements - Leather Goods - Jewellery - Knitwear.

WE SELL
Building and Interior Decorating Materials - Electronics - Household Appliances - Food and Beverages - Motor Vehicles.

WE EXPORT
Sugar - Tea - Cane and Timber Loaders - Agricultural Machinery - Pesticides - Leather Watchstraps - Watches and Watch Movements - Leather Hand Bags/Wallets, etc. - Jewellery - Textiles.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: ROGERS & CO LTD - ROGERS HOUSE
5, President John Kennedy Street, Port Louis, Mauritius.
Cables: FINANCE. Telex: FW 4221. Telephone: 08-6801.

The islanders: a legacy of bitterness

In 1965, as the autumnal shadows were lengthening across what remained of the British Empire, Mr Anthony Greenwood, the Colonial Secretary of the day, was dispatched to Mauritius. His mission was to explain, on behalf of the recently elected Labour Government, with its well-known disapproval of neo-imperialist manoeuvres, the rather peculiar terms on which Britain was prepared to grant independence to the crown

colony after more than 150 years of British rule. The essence of the deal was that Mauritius could have its independence, plus a sweetener of £1m in development aid, on condition that Britain retained for its own use a small group of islands, the Chagos Archipelago, lying some 1,200 miles to the north-east, which had traditionally been administered from Port Louis, the Mauritian capital. It was the start of the longest - and still not wholly resolved - political controversy in the island's post-independence history.

Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the then Prime Minister of Mauritius, accepted the British offer, defending the decision later on the grounds that, as a colony at the time, Mauritius had little choice in the matter, that gaining independence was the larger priority and that he had been deceived by British pledges that the excised outlying islands would be used only for communications purposes.

The decision did not go uncontested by local politicians. Sir (then Mr) Gaetan Duval, the right-wing Creole leader and current Deputy Prime Minister, had argued for a referendum on the independence issue. He favoured a status for Mauritius similar to that between France and its overseas departments such as Réunion. He has always maintained that Sir Seewoosagur accepted the British offer in return for London's rejection of the referendum proposal.

In any event, the deal went ahead, despite the passage, in December, 1965, of a United Nations General Assembly resolution, urging Britain "to take no action which would dismember the territory of Mauritius". The Chagos Archipelago, together with three nearby islands, Desroches, Farquhar and Aldabra, formerly part of the Seychelles group, were proclaimed to be the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) - in effect, a completely

THE FASTEST WAY TO THE MOST EXOTIC ISLAND IN THE SUN

Mauritius - the most exotic tropical island in the Indian Ocean sun. For sunbathers, beachcombers, sightseers, mountaineers, yachtsmen, water-skiers, surf-riders, snorklers, skindivers, anglers, deep-sea fishermen, sunken treasure-hunters, philatelists, conchologists, punters, golfers, gamblers, gourmets, all-night ravers and ultimate escapists. No wonder God modelled heaven on it.

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Floreal Knitwear is the oldest established and the largest knitwear manufacturing unit in Mauritius, vertically integrated with Ferney Spinning Mills, employing 4,000 workers, offers:

- Up-to-date technics & Management
- Woolmark and Machine wash qualities
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- France	- Denmark
- Italy	- Ireland
- Germany	- Switzerland
- UK	- USA
- Canada	- Japan

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Mauritius

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Prices start from as little as £891 for 2 weeks at La Pirogue on a half board basis.

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337 Bowers Road, London NW1 7FJ
Tel: 01-361 7133

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This Prospectus contains particulars given in compliance with the Regulations of the Company of The Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to Logica plc ("the Company") and its subsidiaries...

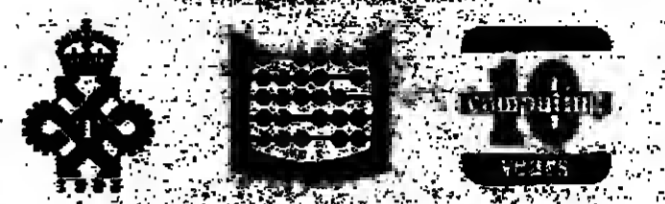
Logica

Logica plc

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1981 with Registered No. 1631639)

Offer for Sale by Tender by Close Brothers Limited

of 10,400,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each at a minimum tender price of 140p per share, the price tendered being payable in full on application.



Directors and Advisers

Directors: Philip Arthur Booley Hughes, CBE, MA (Cantab.) (Chairman), Leonard Arthur Taylor, MA (Oxon.), MSc (Managing Director), Patrick Joseph Coen, BSc, PhD, DIC, Peter Crooks Harbridge, MA (Oxon.)...

Professor Dr. Carl Johan Friedrich Bötcher, (Non-executive Director), Nieuwe Schoolstraat 2a, 2514 HX The Hague, Netherlands

Secretary and Registered Office: Robert George Varley, FCA, 64 Newman Street, London W1A 4SE

Issuing House: Close Brothers Limited, 36 Great St. Helen's, London EC3A 6AP

Stockbrokers: Hoare Govett Limited, Heron House, 319/325 High Holborn, London WC1V 7PB and 27 Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AN

Auditors and Joint Reporting Accountants: Robson Rhodes, Chartered Accountants, 186 City Road, London EC1V 2NU

Joint Reporting Accountants: Price Waterhouse, Chartered Accountants, Southwark Towers, 33 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9SY

Solicitors to the Company: Clifford-Turner, Blackfriars House, 19 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6BT

Solicitors to the Offer for Sale: Freshfields, Craniall House, 25 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7LH

Principal Bankers: National Westminster Bank PLC, 21 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AR; Barclays Bank PLC, 15 Great Portland Street, London W1A 4TR; Abn-Amro Bank Nederland NV, Blauw 28/34, 3000 DG Rotterdam, Netherlands

Receiving Bankers: National Westminster Bank PLC, New Issues Department, PO Box 79, 2 Princes Street, London EC2P 2BD

Registrars and Transfer Office: Close Registrars Limited, Arthur House, 803 High Road, Leyton, London E15 7AA

Key Information

The information below should be read in conjunction with the full text of this Prospectus from which it is derived.

Business

Logica is a leading European independent computer software, consultancy and products company, with an international capability and reputation.

Logica was established in 1969, has grown in turnover and staff every year, and currently has some 1,600 employees.

- Logica's activities comprise: [] Consultancy and Project Management, [] Custom-built Systems: Software and Hardware, [] Software Products, [] Office Automation

Logica's clients are mainly large companies or government departments and are broadly spread over many market sectors.

Logica has operating subsidiaries in seven countries and has undertaken projects in over 40 countries.

Trading Record table with columns: Years ended 30th June, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983. Rows: Turnover (£'000), Profit before taxation (£'000), Number of staff (at year end).

Offer for Sale Statistics

Offer for Sale Statistics table with columns: Minimum tender price, Number of Ordinary Shares of 10p each in issue after the Offer for Sale, Market capitalisation, Adjusted earnings per Ordinary Share for the year ended 30th June, 1983, Price earnings multiple, Gross dividend yield, Net tangible assets, Percentage of enlarged issued share capital being marketed.

+ Calculated in accordance with Note (viii) in Section 2 of the Accountants' Report set out in Appendix 1.

Shareholders

Shareholders table listing categories like Directors, Staff and Associates, Existing Institutions, Public, with percentages of issued share capital.

Share Capital

Share Capital table showing authorized, issued and now being issued fully paid Ordinary Shares of 10p each.

Principal Definition

In this Prospectus 'Logica' shall mean Logica plc and its subsidiaries or previous ultimate holding companies and their subsidiaries or, where the context requires, Logica plc or any of its appropriate subsidiaries.

Indebtedness

At the close of business on 30th September, 1983 the Company and its subsidiaries had outstanding bank overdrafts of £4,630,700 (of which £328,708 was secured), leasing commitments of £222,633, hire purchase commitments of £287,845 and guarantees of £688,117.

Description of Activities

Logica's activities can be divided into four broad categories, which contributed to turnover for the three years ended 30th June, 1983 approximately as follows:

Description of Activities table with columns: 1981, 1982, 1983. Rows: Consultancy and Project Management, Custom-built Systems: Software and Hardware, Software Products, Office Automation.

Office automation contributed approximately 31 per cent of Logica's profit before taxation in 1983 (1982 - 19 per cent, 1981 - 17 per cent).

Consultancy and Project Management: Logica undertakes consultancy assignments in computing, communications, office automation and management sciences for a wide range of clients.

Custom-built Systems: Software and Hardware: The largest activity of Logica is designing and building complex software. Clients are usually large organisations, themselves sophisticated and expert users of computers.

In addition to using standard hardware, Logica also designs and manufactures its own special purpose hardware. This enables Logica to address the needs of clients both by custom-built software, which allows customers to tailor specific applications, and by custom-built hardware. Logica has consistently maintained this dual capability rather than just being a software house, and the Directors consider that this has been a major factor in its growth, distinguishing it from many competitors.

Software Products

Logica designs and sells re-usable systems of software. Such software products, which in some cases include specially configured hardware, fall into two categories - those which Logica calls 'systems kernels' which are used as components in the supply of custom-built computer systems and those that are sold in volume as standardised products in their own right.

Systems kernel is used as the basis for constructing a number of computer systems for similar applications. Each project involves some modification and often substantial additions to the systems kernel.

Office Automation

As one of the pioneers of software design for word-processing, Logica has been involved in office automation since the early 1970s. It developed UNICOM, an advanced multi-user system, for Unilever. Since then Logica has continued to increase its specialist expertise in word-processing software and local area networks.

Logica currently designs, manufactures and sells the VTS 2000 range of word-processors, powerful single-user units, developed from the VTS 1000, which was first launched by Logica in 1978.

Logica also manufactures and sells FOCUSNET, which is a local area network based on the Cambridge Ring technology. Systems are installed in the UK, the US, Australia, Switzerland, Yugoslavia and Italy. Logica also manufactures and sells the VTS 9500, a high personal business computer based on the VTS 2000 hardware design.

مذاكرات



مركزاً من راصل

By a Special Resolution of the Company passed on 17th October, 1983, the Directors were generally authorized for the purposes of Section 14 of the Companies Act 1980 to alter relevant provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company...

2. Articles of Association
The Articles of Association of the Company contain, inter alia, provisions to the following effect:
(a) Votes of Members
Subject to disfranchisement of a member in the event of non-payment of any call or other moneys due and payable in respect of any shares...

(b) Variation of Rights
All or any of the rights or privileges attached to any class of shares may, subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 1980, be varied or abrogated (a) in respect of any such shares by a resolution passed by the holders of such shares...

(c) Directors
(i) Unless otherwise determined by the Company in General Meeting the number of Directors shall not be less than two. No maximum number of Directors is fixed by the Articles of Association.
(ii) Save as provided in the Articles of Association, a Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum present at a meeting in relation to any resolution on which he is debarring from voting in respect of any contract, arrangement, transaction, proposal or dealing to which he has any material interest...

(d) Borrowing Powers
The Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to raise or borrow money and to mortgage or charge in any manner property and uncalled capital and to issue debentures...

Table with 4 columns: Name, Country and date of incorporation, Issued share capital, Nature of business, and Employees as at 30th June 1983. Includes Logica Holdings Limited, Logica Group Limited, Logica UK Limited, etc.

Table with 4 columns: Name, Beneficial, Non-beneficial, Beneficial, Non-beneficial. Lists directors and their shareholdings before and after the offer for sale.

5. Sale and Subscription Agreement
Close Brothers Limited has agreed, subject to the Council of The Stock Exchange admitting the Ordinary Shares of 10p each of the Company to the Official List not later than 10th November 1983, to purchase from all the Directors of the Company (the 'Vendor Directors') other than the Vendor Director...

Under the above agreement
(i) the Vendor Director has agreed not to dispose of any further shares in the Company until after the publication of the audited accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries for the year ending 30th June, 1984 and the report of the Directors for that period...

6. Material Contracts
The following contracts, not being contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business, have been entered into by the Company and its subsidiaries within two years immediately preceding the date of this Offer for Sale and are, or may be, material:
(i) agreement dated 12th March, 1982 between (1) NEB (2) Holdings and (3) the Director of Holdings...

(ii) agreement dated 28th July, 1982 between (1) the Director of Holdings and (2) the Company and (3) Close Brothers Limited whereby they agreed that Close Brothers Limited should on behalf of the Company sell 100,000 new Ordinary Shares of 10p each in the Company at £12.75 per share and 338,600 new Ordinary Shares of 10p each in Holdings at £11.50 per share.

(iii) agreement dated 12th April, 1983 between (1) Planning Research Corporation (PRC) (2) PRC Public Management Services Inc. (4) Planning Research Corporation (Australia) Pty Limited (5) Logica Pty Limited and (6) the Director of Holdings whereby they agreed that the Company should on behalf of the Company sell 100,000 new Ordinary Shares of 10p each in the Company at £12.75 per share and 338,600 new Ordinary Shares of 10p each in Holdings at £11.50 per share.

7. Taxation
(i) The Directors have been advised that, following completion of the Offer for Sale, the Company will be liable to pay a corporation tax liability within the meaning of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

(ii) Under the sale and subscription agreement referred to in paragraph 5 above the Vendor Director has given certain undertakings in respect of taxation liabilities of the Company and its subsidiaries.

(iii) The amount payable on application on each share is the amount tendered per share by the applicant, being not less than the minimum tender price of £12.75 per share of the 100,000 new Ordinary Shares of 10p each of the Company...

8. Consents and Registration of Documents
(i) Robson Rhodes and Price Waterhouse have given and have not withdrawn their written consents in the issue of this Prospectus with the inclusion hereof of the Vendor Director's Report and to the references therein and to their names in the firm and context in which they are included.

10. Documents Available for Inspection
The following documents or copies thereof may be inspected at the office of Clifford Turner, Blockmans House, Horse Bridge Street, London EC2A 4ET during normal business hours on any weekday between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. except for a period of fourteen days following the date of this Prospectus:

Dated 29th October 1983

Procedure for Application
Requirements for Application
No person requiring a copy of this Offer for Sale and an Application Form in any territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as an Application Form in that territory...

THE APPLICATION LIST FOR THE ORDINARY SHARES NOW OFFERED FOR SALE WILL OPEN AT 10.00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, 27th OCTOBER, 1983 AND MAY BE CLOSED AT ANY TIME THEREAFTER.

Application Form

Logica plc Offer for Sale by Tender by Close Brothers Limited

of 10,400,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each at a minimum tender price of 140p per share, the price tendered being payable in full on application

Form with fields for Name of applicant, Address, Amount of shares applied for, and Signature.

PLEASE SIGN IN BLOCK CAPITALS
PLEASE PRINT YOUR COMPLETE NAME

PLEASE SIGN IN BLOCK CAPITALS
PLEASE PRINT YOUR COMPLETE NAME

These Clearing Houses tend to bear the appropriate sorting code number in the top right hand corner of the application form in full at the price of which application is made. An application will not be considered unless these conditions are fulfilled.

General
1. Support as aforesaid and as mentioned below applications will be accepted on the following basis:
(i) all shares for which applications are wholly or partly accepted will be sold at the same price of the 'stopping price', which will be not less than the minimum tender price of 140p per share.

2. Applications, which may be made on the accompanying Application Form in any territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as an Application Form in that territory...

3. Applications must be made in the minimum tender price or at any higher price per share which is a whole multiple of 5p.

4. Applications must be lodged with National Westminster Bank PLC, New Issues Department, 2 Princes Street, London EC2P 2BD not later than 10 a.m. on Thursday, 27th October, 1983.

5. Each application must be accompanied by a separate cheque or bankers' draft drawn in sterling on a branch in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of a bank which is a member of the London or Scottish Clearing Houses...

6. Applications must be for a minimum of 100 shares, applications for not more than 1,000 shares may be in multiples of 100 shares and not more than 10,000 shares in multiples of 1,000 shares...

7. To CLOSE BROTHERS LIMITED
I/We enclose a sterling cheque or bankers' draft payable to National Westminster Bank PLC for the above mentioned sum, being the amount payable in full on application for the above stated number of Ordinary Shares of 10p each in Logica plc (the 'Company') at the price per share at which the application is made...

8. In consideration of your agreement to accept applications upon the terms and conditions of the Offer for Sale and the Prospectus for an aggregate number of 10,400,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each in the Company, I/We hereby agree that this application shall be irrevocable until 10th November 1983...

9. A Corporation should sign under the hand of a duly authorized official who should state his representative capacity. If the form is signed under a Power of Attorney, such Power of Attorney or a duly certified copy thereof must accompany the application.

WHY A PATEK PHILIPPE IS THE COSTLIEST WATCH TO PRODUCE AND ONE OF THE FINEST INVESTMENTS YOU CAN OWN.

It takes nine months to complete the Golden Ellipse shown here. Sometimes even several years for a complicated Patek Philippe model. And once the watch is finally assembled and working perfectly, it is taken apart again to be further refined.

Every element is microscopically hand-finished to a tolerance which represents a fraction of the thickness of a human hair. Every wheel, gear, pinion and cog is polished by hand until it is virtually frictionless.

Just as most Patek Philippes are handed down from one generation to the next, so are the tools that Patek Philippe watchmakers use to perfect them – heirlooms that have become as precious as they are indispensable.

After 600 hours of testing, regulating and refining to as near absolute perfection as human hands and minds can achieve, each watch is lubricated so delicately that it takes less than a cupful of oil for an entire year's production.

Everything about a gold Patek Philippe that can be gold, is gold – 18 kt. gold – right down to the dial, the winding crown, the strap buckle, and the spring bars that hold the strap to the watch. In automatic Patek Philippes, even the winding rotors are of solid gold, since the additional weight increases the winding efficiency.

But gold has never represented more than 25% of the cost of a Patek Philippe watch. The real cost is in the

time, patience, tradition and absolute dedication to flawlessness that makes it a Patek Philippe.

Like any other work of art by an acknowledged master, a Patek Philippe appreciates in value because the scarcity of such quality is growing at a disheartening rate.

Queen Victoria, Tchaikowsky, Roosevelt, Lindbergh... but a few of the famous who have worn a Patek Philippe. Others wear one this very minute, and constitute a long and impressive roll-of-honour.

Patek Philippe is possibly the only watch manufacturer ever to have a comprehensive book devoted exclusively to it. This volume retraces Patek Philippe's history since 1839 and describes with 600 illustrations many of its rare timepieces.

It includes Patek Philippe watch No. 27.368, the first Swiss wristwatch ever made. It was sold in 1868 – for a comparatively modest sum – to the Countess Kocevicz of Hungary. Today the value of this watch is estimated at \$ 50,000. Or watch No. 761.478 – one of the earlier Patek Philippe self-winding models – sold in 1955 for \$ 475. We bought it back last year, at an auction, for almost five times its initial value which, when you think of it, makes one wonder:

Can you afford to invest in anything less than a Patek Philippe?



FOR MASTERS OF THEIR TIME.

Write for catalogue to: Patek Philippe (U. K.) Ltd.,
P.O. Box 35, Maidenhead SL6 3BQ.

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Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

Friday's close and week's change

FT Index: 689.8 up 11.3 FT Gilt: 81.60 up 0.5 FT All Share: 430.93 up 3.28... New York: Dow Jones Index 9,370.21 up 46.58... Amsterdam: 149.3 down 2... Sydney: AO Index 688.5 down 3.9... Zurich: SKA General 291.5 up 2.3

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1,502.0 down 0.002... NEW YORK CLOSE Sterling \$1,500.8 down 0.0052... Dollar DM 2.60 down 0.02

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rate 9%... Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 9 1/2-9%... US rates: Bank prime rate 11.00... ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Bishopsgate Trust, Reed Executive, Finalis... TOMORROW - Interims: English National Investment, First Charlotte Assets Trust... WEDNESDAY - Interims: Advance Services, Anglo American Coal Corp... THURSDAY - Interims: Allied Leather Industries, Barlows... FRIDAY - Interims: Aern Needles Group, Clayton Son & Co

ANNUAL MEETINGS

TOMORROW - Apex Properties, 243/247 Pavilion Road... WEDNESDAY - Bogod-Pelepoh, High Holborn House... THURSDAY - Cantors, 164-170 Queens Road... FRIDAY - Bogod-Pelepoh, High Holborn House

Company policy under fire from investor group Gulf Oil prepares to fight off possible £10bn takeover bid

By Michael Press Gulf Oil, one of the world's biggest oil companies, is preparing its defences against a possible takeover bid from an investor group which has built up a strategic stake in the company... It is also getting ready to fend off further demands for changes in management policy from the group.

up the value of Gulf shares, which are trading at between \$45 and \$47. It is argued that the composition of the mainly Texan investor group supports this interpretation. It is led by Mr I. Boone Pickens, president of Mesa Petroleum, a Texas company which was involved last year with Gulf in a battle for control of Cities Service, another mainly oil company.

Mr Pickens's allies include companies controlled by the Canadian Belzberg family, Harbert International, a construction concern, Sunshine Mining, a silver mining company and Wagner and Brown, an independent Texan oil company. The group bought 8.75 per cent or 18.4 million shares in Gulf last week for \$630m. It said then, in its SEC filing, that the

purchase was for investment only, but it also revealed a credit line amounting to \$1,100m. It is understood, however, that four banks have withdrawn their support for the Mesa group. At the same time, the Gulf board has bought more of its own shares, raising the number of Treasury shares to 45 million out of a total of 210 million.

Transferring the legal if not the operational headquarters to Delaware would enable Gulf to stop cumulative voting for directors. Under this system each share carries as many votes for directors. Gulf has already rejected proposals made by the Mesa group for changes in management policy. The most important called for establishing "royalty trusts".

BP sees US profits recovery next year

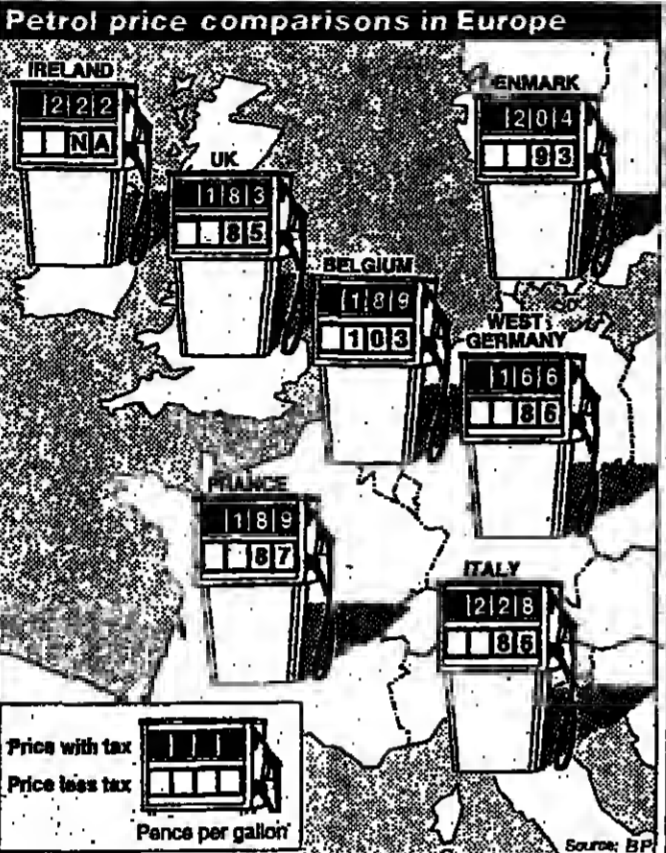
British Petroleum's US subsidiary, BP North America, is reversing its decline in earnings and next year will bring an estimated \$452m (£301m) to BP profits - according to new estimates issued in New York.

Profits, which peaked at \$467m in 1981, fell to \$379m last year, the figures show. This year's figure will be lower still at

\$324m, but profits and investments in the US will start to rise next year. BP will also benefit from increased profits expected from its 53 per cent stake in Sohio of Cleveland, which has paid dividends averaging \$340m a year and \$80m a year in royalty payments from its Prudhoe Bay oilfields in Alaska.

Mr Alastair Manson, the subsidiary's president, said that the profits from the two US companies supported BP's policy of maintaining in the US what are effectively two separate oil companies. Although BP has 53 per cent of Sohio, it has a minority on the board of the company.

Mr Manson said: "We see no reason to change the set-up."



Drop in petrol prices expected as sales flop

Despite fears of short-term oil price rises because of the Iraq-Iran war, Britain is likely to benefit from a petrol price cut this winter. The Houston-based Petroleum Information Corporation has reported that the seasonal increase in oil sales on the spot market has failed to materialize and that oil industry experts believe a settlement of the oil supply problems created by the war could be negotiated by the start of next year.

The effect of this, says PIC, would be more stable oil supplies and a softening of prices, replacing the present nervousness in the market which has led to short-term price increases. Oil price stability has already led leading British suppliers and the small independent companies who draw supplies from the Rotterdam spot market to consider price cuts to stimulate demand in the winter.

Unitary tax talks hit snag

The British and American Governments are locked in delicate negotiations over which British company should be represented on the presidential working party set up to investigate unitary taxation. Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, agreed with Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, during her recent visit to the United States that the chief executive officer of the American subsidiary of a British company should be on the working party.

Park Lane sale plan by Trident

Trident Television is considering the sale of 45 Park Lane, the former Playboy Club premises, for which it has obtained change-of-use permission. Trident is also seeking a new home for the Village Club casino, but it denied it was for sale. It also denied that it was selling the Connoisseur Club - the licence for which has been transferred from below a pizza parlour in Fulham Road, West London, to the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington. A new room, called the VIP Room, with a small number of tables has been created within the Victoria casino.

City analysts suggested that these moves were designed to enhance Trident's value before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report, expected next month, into the bid for the company from Pleasurama. A £55m offer was agreed in March. Mr Roger Pemberton, a spokesman for Trident, said of 45 Park Lane: "In principle, it is likely we shall be disposing of it in the near future." He said that Trident had bought the freehold but that Land Securities, the property company, held a head lease. Trident was talking to Land Securities about buying the lease. The change-of-use permission would allow more residential and office accommodation and a banking hall. One idea is that the banking hall might be attractive to an Arab bank. Property sources were sceptical, however, that the property would be worth much.

Allied Corporation plans UK listing

Allied Corporation, the US conglomerate which acquired the Bendix Corporation in a \$1.8 billion (£1.2 billion) deal this year is planning to list its shares on the London Stock Exchange from next May. Mr Edward Hennessey, chairman of Allied, said that the company would also be seeking share listings in Frankfurt and Geneva, to reflect the growing importance of European market to the group. Mr Hennessey who has been on a week's tour of Europe, said that Allied employs 21,000 people in Europe and has a \$2 billion annual turnover from its operations in Britain, West Germany, France and Switzerland.

Savings set record

The flow of money into National Savings rose sharply last month, traditionally a good month for savings. New figures show that net receipts were £333m, the highest sum in any month this financial year and well above the £103.8m of August and the £22.9m of July. Last month's receipts bring to £1.3 billion the amount raised by National Savings during the first half of the financial year - within the borrowing target for the period. The receipts were boosted by the usual flow of money into savings from people returning from holiday. At the start of next month, the index-linked certificates earn a tax free 2.4 per cent supplement. There are fears of a mass flight from index-linked certificates once the supplement is paid.

Decision soon on Crown Agents

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development is expected to decide in the next month whether to maintain the Crown Agents as an independent body. Their future has been in doubt since the Sultan of Brunei decided to withdraw £3,000m funds from the Agents' investment management side. The profits from managing this portfolio are thought to have been about £1.5m a year and without these the Agents are unprofitable. Mr Raison is believed to be sceptical about the need for the Agents' existence - a view which the Treasury and Foreign Office are said to share.

Industry's unprecedented move against price plan Car companies unite to fight EEC

The car-making industries of Europe are today joining forces in an unprecedented attempt to kill a piece of European Commission draft legislation aimed at harmonizing car and tyre prices and increasing competition among distributors. The proposed regulations, welcomed by consumer groups who see no justification for the wide disparity in European car prices, are condemned by the manufacturers as a misuse of the Commission's powers and an encroachment on the authority of governments.

Mr Anthony Fraser, director of Britain's Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said the draft rules were "ill conceived and damaging". The society's view, which has received a sympathetic hearing from the Government, is that the survival of Britain's industry, including the commercial vehicle and component sectors, would be threatened. The proposed regulations are the first attempt by the Commission at drawing up exemption for an industry's distribution agreements which otherwise would be deemed to be

anti-competitive under the terms of the Treaty of Rome. They also come after the increase, particularly in Britain, of so-called parallel imports which manufacturers have tried hard to reduce. As one stage, when the pound was strong, right hand drive cars were available on the Continent for up to 30 per cent less than their British market price and this caused an outcry against alleged over-pricing by manufacturers in some markets. But the industry says that the planned regulations will do little to improve consumer choice and could, in the longer term, be harmful to its interests as well as crippling to manufacturers established franchised dealer networks.

The proposed legitimizing of distribution networks parallel to existing franchised operations would, says a joint statement, be a positive encouragement to windfall profits. One of the key proposals from the Commission is that if prices in any country vary by 12 per cent or more compared with any other member country, manufacturers must then supply vehicles to any other dealer on demand. There is concern in Britain that BL would suffer most and might be forced to abandon some low-price markets in the EEC. This, says the society, could allow Japanese and East European manufacturers to increase their market penetration.

City Editor's Comment Logical secret of software survival

Logica, which is coming to the stock market via a tender offer for sale, should not be confused with the run-of-the-mill computer software houses. It is altogether a different proposition. It has already grown accustomed as a rounded operation, rich in talent, to the disciplines imposed on quoted companies through its extensive institutional shareholders.

Although the computer industry has lost much of its exuberance in recent months Logica should still command a warm reception with the realistic tender prices encouraging interest. Close Brothers, the 100-year-old merchant bank conducting its first big new issue since the 1960s, and the stockbrokers Hoare Govett, have chosen an enticingly low base price. At 140p the shares are offered at only 19.1 times last year's earnings. Even allowing for the computer industry's loss of some of the bright eyed enthusiasm this is a remarkably low rating.

Obscured view of TV bids

The Independent Broadcasting Authority's new guidelines on financial advertising, announced in May and just published in a new code, fail to make it clear whether television can be used to wage war during bids. But the short answer is that it cannot. On the advice of the Stock Exchange, the IBA and the Independent Television Companies Association vetting committee decided to ban bid advertising. These bodies say it may be a subtle ploy, but they will accept advertisements for prospectuses because they are aimed at the public, bid adverts are obviously aimed at a much narrower audience - the shareholders of the company under fire.

The Stock Exchange's view is that bid advertising is acceptable in newspapers because there is space to set out the terms in enough detail to remove ambiguity. But a 30-second television advertisement is not long enough to convey that sort of information. The television industry view is that it could cope with advertisement and would like to see a further liberalization: several potential advertisers have already had to be turned away.

Malaysia considers loans inquiry

Kuala Lumpur (Reuters) - Malaysia may establish a commission of inquiry to investigate bad loans made by Bank Bumiputera's Hongkong subsidiary to property firms in the Colony. Datuk-Seri Mahathir Mohamad, the prime minister, said the Government was also considering issuing a report to parliament on the affair, which has started political controversy within Malaysia's ruling coalition. Political sources said Dr Mahathir had been under pressure to move on the issue since the disclosure in Hongkong of the extent of the state-owned Bank's lending to developers like the bankrupt Carrion Group. Two weeks ago the Government rejected opposition calls for a royal commission of inquiry after Dr Mahathir said senior executives had taken money from Hongkong borrowers while advancing the loans.

He claimed that directors of Bumiputera Malaysia Finance (BMF), as the Hongkong subsidiary is known, received \$HK3.3m (£280,000) in "consultancy fees" from developers, he said. However, Dr Mahathir said the Government could not take action against BMF employees because they had done nothing illegal. Mr Nawani Mat Awin, the chairman of Bank Bumiputera, said recently that BMF board members and other senior officers would resign. The BMF board would be restructured and expanded. A Hoogkooq court was told three weeks ago that the Carrion Group owed BMF at least \$HK4.6 billion. But financial analysts believe Carrion's creditors are owed more than \$HK10 billion. Mr George Tan, Carrion chairman, and Mr Beotly Ho, its executive director will appear before a Hongkong court on November 23 on charges of making false statements. Mr Ho is also charged with false accounting. Bank Bumiputera, set up to channel funds to Bumiputras (indigenous Malays) has come under fire from opposition groups who claim the loans are a national scandal.

Bregreen seems set to take over Sunlight

The £36m takeover battle for Sunlight Services ends its climax with both Bregreen (Holdings) and the Sunlight board claiming to control about 30 per cent of the equity. The final offer closes on Wednesday afternoon, and if Bregreen buys the 7.8 per cent of Sunlight it is allowed to in the open market, as widely expected the predator will need only 12.2 per cent acceptance over the next two days to gain control. Bregreen had already acquired 7.8 per cent in the open market and last week revealed acceptances of a further 4 per cent. The Sunlight board controls 26 per cent through beneficial and one-beneficial holdings, while its largest institutional shareholder, Britannic Assurance, holds 11 per cent. That leaves the contest dependent on the 12 per cent controlled by institutions but mainly by small shareholders. A large block of Sunlight shares was sold in the market on Friday, pushing the price down 15p to 235p before a buyer - not Bregreen - bought them, pushing the price back up to 255p. Mr David Evans, chairman of Bregreen, responded to last week's Sunlight defence document by drawing attention to Sunlight's share price. "Before we bid they were 170p, oow they are 255p and we are offering 300p in the shares and cash."

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Advertisement for Japan Air Lines featuring an illustration of a plane and text: "A network that reaches a business world in Tokyo and beyond." "Tokyo is not only the heart of the Japanese business world. It's also the gateway to the business centres of Asia and the Pacific." "That's why Japan Air Lines has the largest network of any airline in the Far East and Pacific, together with frequent flights from Japan to West and East Coast destinations in North America." "Whenever you're going, you'll enjoy the attentive care, hospitality and service that is uniquely Japanese." "The longer the flight, the more the details matter." JAPAN AIR LINES

ODD MEN

DATEK PHILIPPE



Stock Exchange Prices Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct 17. Dealings End, Oct 28. Contango Day, Oct 31. Settlement Day, Nov 7.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Main table of stock exchange prices, organized by sector: BRITISH FUNDS, MEDICINES, LINDS, COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, DOLLAR STOCKS, BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, A-B, FINANCIAL TRUSTS, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, OIL, PROPERTY, MISCELLANEOUS, UNLISTED SECURITIES.

THE WEEK AHEAD

More visitors mean a five-star lift for Savoy

The companies reporting results this week more than make up to interest what they lack in size. Half-year results from the Savoy Hotel on Friday will disappoint the City if they are not at least double last time's £300,000.

Highland has had increasing success persuading supermarkets to stock The Famous Grouse and it is also becoming more available in pubs.

Profits should be about £6.7m - a figure which represents a recent upgrading by the City.

Imperial Chemical Industries, the only big company reporting this week, is expected to show a big increase in third quarter profits on Thursday.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Small trade surplus expected

The main focus of interest is a generally quiet week for economic statistics which will be the trade figures for September, due out on Wednesday.

The visible trade balance has been volatile over the past few months, which has given City analysts no small headache in predicting what the September figures will show.

The other economic indicator of interest this week, also announced on Wednesday, is the Department of Employment's latest estimates for the second quarter of this year, contained in the Employment Gazette.

Mr John Harvey Jones, the chairman, is expected to tour the United States shortly before its full listing in New York.

After Vicious night

Learn a m can

EURO

FIXED-INTE

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center.

American notebook

'Vicious phase' may blight election year

The Federal Reserve does not face an easy array of policy options at this time. With very strong money growth behind us there is a high probability that there will be an acceleration of inflation next year. And despite the strong performance of the economy in the second and third quarters of this year there are a number of indicators of a slowdown in business activity. So if the Federal Reserve continues its policy of restraint on banks' reserves - leading to slow money growth - it will make more likely a sharp slowdown in economic growth next year. This would reflect the fact that since about April, banks' reserves have shown very weak growth and this is now being reflected in weak money growth. Adjusted reserves of the banks (as supported on a seasonally-adjusted basis by the St Louis Federal Reserve) reached \$54 billion (\$25 billion) in the second week of April. In the week of October 12, they were \$54.1 billion. M1 reached \$514.5 billion in the week of June 8. It was \$519.6 billion in the week of October 12. This rise of \$5.1 billion in money in the last four months compares with a rise of \$25 billion in the four months ended June 8. Both reserves and money have undergone a very sharp deceleration. Reserves movements typically lead money movements by two to three months. Hence, with reserves still static, money is not likely to show any significant increase until the new year - even if the Federal Reserve were to start pumping up reserves growth now. There is no sign this is what the Fed intends to do. The Federal Reserve needs concrete proof of a slowdown in the pace of economic growth before it will take steps to offset that growth. At present, the dominant impression given

Maxwell Newton

French Connection seeks City link

When Mr Stephen Marks decided to hang up his tennis racket to concentrate on a more profitable career in the world of fashion little did he realize how rapid would be his rise. In a little more than 10 years he has built up his company, the French Connection, into one of the best known fashion labels in the country. The group designs and manufactures a co-ordinated range of clothes, for men and women aged from 18 to 40. The names of French designers, still, his confidence in his own team remains impressive. "We are unique, we have designed a complete image

exclusive to French Connection," says Mr Marks. Most of the group's designs are made in India and the Far East, but some of its exclusive clothes are made at its headquarters in Bow, East London under the Stephen Marks label. There is also a central warehouse measuring 30,000 sq ft and the group has its own 11 shops spread across the country. More are planned. With the group already sitting on almost £1m in cash and next year's spring collection already up its way to the shops, the French Connection should receive a warm reception on the

USM when the shares start trading. Another newcomer to the USM is Intec Group, the micrographics group, which has arranged a placing of 2.4 million shares at 91p through broker E. B. Savory Millin. This placing will value the entire company at £9.1m where it is rated at 20 times earnings and yields 3.3 per cent on the forecast gross dividend of 2.42p. Most of Intec's business is the design, assembly and supply of micrographic products to industry. One of its recent and most prestigious contracts was to supply 10 Downing Street with a sophisticated system.

Mrs Thatcher receives more than 2,000 letters a week and the system installed by Intec files and indexes all the letters and ready for retrieval on a visual display unit. Intec's growth record is impressive with pretax profits rising from £352,000 in 1979 to £791,000 last year. The only hiccup was when profits tumbled to £115,000 as the group opened up its first operation in the United States last year. Savory Millin has done some price cutting as a result of the market's present weakness, but the shares should still open at a modest premium when dealings begin today.

Also applying for a USM listing is Fogas, the Irish liquid petroleum gas distributor. The broker Simon & Coates and Development Capital Corporation are arranging a placing of shares to raise £2.3m - £1.3m (£2.3m) of which will be raised through the issue of new shares. Fogas estimates the LPG market in Ireland at £100m of which it controls around 10 per cent. The group eventually hopes to expand in British market. Last year, Fogas made pretax profits of £1.01m. DCC owns just under 50 per cent of the shares. Hartons Group, the electrical, plastic goods to nursery products group, hit a new high of 25p last week following a bullish circuit from brokers Foster Brantwaite.

Hartons joined the USM in July 1981 after a demerger from another publicly quoted group, Francis Sumner. F & S is looking for a big surge in pretax profits this year from £267,000 to £1.25m, which on a 52 per cent tax charge gives the group earnings of £.74p and puts the shares on fully taxed multiple of 10.05. The group has now completed its rationalization programme and any increased exposure to the European market should result in a substantial boost to growth over the next decade. One of the USM's best known glamour stocks, Continental Microwave, which designs and manufactures advanced electronics for the defence, communication and broadcasting industries, is taking advantage of its highly rated paper by way of a rights issue. The company is calling for £1.0m through a one-for-six rights issue at 60p a share, an 80p discount in the price ruling in the market last Friday. The proceeds will be used to repay a secured loan, provide extra working capital and to finance the acquisition of a high-tech American company, RF Technology, for £13,000 cash.

Unlisted Securities

Table with multiple columns: Capitalization, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Div Yield, P/E. Lists various unlisted securities with their respective financial metrics.

Lear aircraft leads rivals in carbon-fibre project

By Robert Rodwell

Competition is hotting up for the Lear Fan 2100, the radical all-carbon-fibre business aircraft being developed at Reno, in Nevada, for volume production near Belfast and in which the British Government has a 5 per cent equity stake. Three rivals, one from Beech, a leading US manufacturer of business aircraft, and the second partly financed by the Japanese conglomerate Mitsubishi are now in the ring while the Lear Fan itself has been delayed on its way to market by certification difficulties. With the resolution of these in sight and initial US Federal Aviation Agency type certification now scheduled for March, it is too early to write off the project - as some commentators have long been eager to do - as another engine fiasco in the De Lorean mould. Lear Fan's critics were given ammunition by the failure on static load tests last year of a ground-test specimen wing. The definitive prototype, the second Lear Fan to fly, has been grounded for some time while a re-designed and stiffened wing, built in Belfast, has been fitted. It is scheduled to resume flight testing this month. Shortly afterwards, the company expects the FAA to clear the Lear Fan for its own test pilots to fly and begin formal certification tests. Working in the forefront of the new structural composite technologies, and itself responsible for much of the rapidly growing body of knowledge about all-plastic airframes, Lear Fan was disappointed but not downhearted by the structural

failure, which the company argues, is what static ground testing is all about. Such failures have occurred during the development phases of intangible aircraft in the past - often with rather less excuse. Only two of the 28 special conditions that the FAA has said the aircraft must meet for certification under its code concern the structure while 25 are associated with its unusual propulsion train, which employs two gas turbine engines coupled through a common gearbox to drive their main rotor. The entire propulsion train - engines, gearbox, propeller and rear fuselage section - has now completed a gruelling 200-hour endurance test at Reno and is thought unlikely to cause the FAA any more concern. Lear Fan engineers are quick to point out that almost all commercial helicopters flying here for years employed the concept of two engines coupled through one gearbox to drive their main rotor. Following the financial restructuring of Lear Fan last year in which the British government's stake was much diluted with new US and Saudi Arabian cash and large loans written off, the company has adequate financial resources to see the project through certification and into production. "The programme is within budget and we have recently been doing fairly well at meeting schedules," says Larry Larkin, Lear Fan's director in Northern Ireland. The new management has

either re-negotiated on realistic terms, or refunded deposits on about 35 of 60 early fixed-price contracts accepted by the former management which would have involved selling the first few dozen aeroplanes well below cost. Talks are continuing on the remaining contracts which fall into that category and the company now claims to hold about 250 firm orders on satisfactory terms. No more orders are, however, being accepted until certification is obtained. With the first deliveries to customers now scheduled for next autumn, a years slippage has occurred on the first over-optimistic estimates. Despite the delays, Lear Fan is confident that it can maintain its lead over rivals who are now in the earliest stages of development with similarly radical, highly efficient composite aeroplanes. If imitation is, indeed, sincere flattery, Lear Fan's adoption of a pusher propeller is vindicated in that all three of its new rivals - the Beech Starship, the Mitsubishi-backed Avjet 400 and the Gates Learjet-Piaggio GP-180 - have pushed hut, because of Lear Fan's patent protection on the coupled engine propulsion train have been forced to adopt marginally less efficient uncoupled twin-propeller lay outs. Of the new emerging rivals, Larkin says that the Beech project already flying in a two-thirds scale form, is the one that Lear Fan is regarding most seriously, but he puts it at about 3½ years behind.

Our Gas Fire Safety Check will cost you £5. And it could save your life.

If your gas, wood or coal fire isn't properly ventilated and flued, it could kill you. Because a blocked chimney or flue can cause the fire to produce dangerous fumes containing a deadly, poisonous gas - carbon monoxide. This can happen even if the fire looks to be working perfectly well - and it can happen to you! Chimneys can deteriorate, and loose material - brickwork, mortar and old soot - can fall to the bottom, piling up on any rubble which is there already. This can quickly block the small opening that carries the fumes from your fire safely up the chimney - particularly in older homes.

WHAT TO DO If you have a gas fire, it's easy to make sure it's safe. Call the gas people and ask for a Gas Fire Safety Check; we'll send round a service engineer to make sure that your flue is clearing the burnt fumes safely. Because we think this is so important, our Gas Fire Safety Check is subsidised - so it costs only £5 for peace of mind. This special price includes VAT, and also covers free advice on any further action which may be necessary - although the actual cost of such additional work is, of course, not included. If your gas fire hasn't been checked recently - or if you're in any

Form for Gas Fire Safety Check. Includes fields for Name, Address, Daytime Tel. No., and a section for 'BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR' with instructions to fill in the coupon and post it in an unstamped envelope to: FREE POST, Customer Service Department, British Gas, 8th Floor, 326 High Holborn, London WC1V 7BR.

DON'T TAKE CHANCES - CALL IN THE GAS PEOPLE.

EUROBOND PRICES (yields and premiums) table with columns for Bond Name, Price, Yield, Premium.

FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS table with columns for Stock Name, Price, Yield, Dividend.

Base Lending Rates table with columns for Bank Name, Rate, Term.

THE ARTS

Opera: Paul Griffiths compares Wagner in London and Cardiff, John Higgins reviews Marschner at Wexford

In search of literary parallels

The Valkyrie Coliseum

For the second quadrant of The Ring the world turned on Saturday from Cardiff to London and became both more particular and more sophisticated. It did not, however, wholly alter. The nineteenth century will, so it seems, be as powerful in the background of David Pountney's production for English National Opera as in that of Göran Järvfelt for the Welsh. But, since Mr Pountney is the more literary man, in his version the references may be expected to be more specific.

study, and no doubt will work well as such once this troublesome staging has grown out of such naughty capricious as a leatherette executive chair that squeaks to add to Wotan's worries, or a helmet for Brünnhilde that tips off and clanks timely to the floor.

is tight, hunched, much put upon; at the sound of Hunding's horn her hands fly guilty to her crotch. But then as Siegmund goes into his narration her excitement becomes uncontrollable: she smiles wildly, she mouths his words for him. And at the end of the first act she seizes the sword from him to whirl in triumph before lying down so that he can rapidly consummate their union to the orchestra's closing thump.



The heroine as hysteric: Josephine Barstow's Sieglde with Alberto Remedios's radiant Siegmund

Hans Heiling Wexford Festival

Wexford has had long training in mounting little-known operas by well-known composers, but this year the festival has opened with so unfamiliar work by a hardly familiar name: Heinrich Marschner's Hans Heiling. Outside Germany Marschner is not much more than an entry in the musical reference books as the man who bridged the gap in romantic opera between Weber and Wagner.

supernatural. Indeed, Wexford's comprehensive and fascinating programme notes point out that the subject was first offered to Mendelssohn, who turned it down as being too close to Weber. Even more important, though, is the name of the young chorus master who prepared the first performance of Heiling in Würzburg in 1833, Richard Wagner.

and returns from whence he came. Or rather he should do. Wexford, having chosen a fascinating opera and engaged a highly experienced conductor, Albert Rosen, to show off a score where high-born arias mingle with peasant dances, allows the producer, Stephen Pimlott, to stage a travesty of the opera.

more successfully, by Stephen Pimlott, takes the title role. Understandably, he looks uncertain about what is going on but the voice retains its bloom, especially in the middle register, and he has the right command for Heiling's declamatory scenes.

too prime for Wexford. He goes on to sing Calaf for Scottish Opera. With luck his trousers will not split there as they did when Konrad tried to stab Heiling, which proves that those who tangle with the supernatural pay the price.

Attention to man as much as magic

The Rhinegold New Theatre, Cardiff

So far, so good. Of the two British companies setting out on new Rings at the weekend, it fell to Welsh National Opera to play first, and to offer a Rhinegold on Friday that is straightforward and practical.

to bring out the luxury and bioidlessness of the inhabitants of Valhalla.

Wotan spends as much time lounging or staggering as he does standing bolt upright. His ravens - a pair are included in the second scene for those who would wish a natural Ring - look a bit ashamed of him, although they need feel no embarrassment for the performance of Phillip Joll, who brings simple warmth, honesty; and at times a hedonistic softness to a Wotan who is never in command of anything. Patricia Payne's Fricka does not have to be a temptress; she can be more the comfortable bourgeoisie, preening herself when the orchestra embellishes Loge's praise of womankind.

Since the opera was begun in the year after the Great Exhibition it is perhaps reasonable that it should seem to be unfolding within the Crystal Palace. At any rate, the milieu is one in which Wagner's music oozes as much at home as once it did on monumental discs that followed in the wake of Wieland Wagner's production.

There is also an attractive Freia from Anne Williams-King, whose appealingness makes it all the more strange that her companion gods should be more concerned with the gold than with her. The detail does not coincide with the music and it fits uneasily in a production which generally moves with the score rather than with any cast-iron view of it.

PUBLISHING

Booker Prize: whose freedom of choice?

The rules for this year's Booker McConnell Prize - they vary in detail from year to year - stipulate that no eligible novel shall qualify for the award unless its publisher undertakes "not to divulge the name of the winning author or book before the award is announced by the judges".

if not the punters, would be jubilant. The judges have not yet decided which novel will win, although one judge has made it plain to at least one publisher that he knows. The title of the winning book will be announced before the dinner for the prize at Stationers' Hall which, as last year, will be televised live. That announcement will be made, possibly minutes after the book has been chosen. How, therefore, and to whom, could the publisher of the winning book divulge in advance the name of the winner - if the decision has not already been taken?

four books and why were they not all listed? Presumably she had been receiving flak from some of her authors. Of Cape and Chatto & Windus had each submitted the stipulated four titles, why did the Bookers allow them to claim others which, no doubt, were called in by the judges? And why were books not similarly called in from other houses listed? When I asked Martyn Goff of the National Book League, which administers the prize, he denied responsibility for what was printed. But, if the list did not come from the NBL, where could it have come from?

know if the judges have ever called in books which then achieved the short list or even won the prize. Publishers do not, by and large, take on fiction exclusively for literary reasons. An increasing number of manuscripts of literary novels, not least by authors with more past critical success than royalty, are failing to find publishers. The Booker is, simply, the best full-length novel published between January 1 and November 30. Going by the list of titles submitted by the publishers this year, many have little idea of what literary excellence is.

her face does not convey much emotion either, even with so dramatic a Siegfried as Stephen Jeffries to provoke some response in her. Without at least one first-rate Odette/Odile, would it be wise to drop the ballet for a time? Or should there be bolder attempts to find new talent? What is certain is that conservative methods, rewarding faithful service or picking a reliable dancer who will make no errors but will achieve nothing very individual, have been tried and have failed to overcome the problems brought about by past policies.

Concert

Touch of supremacy London Sinfonietta/Queen Elizabeth Hall

also emphasized the purely colouristic effectiveness of the percussion and wind writing.

"There, I have said it. A masterpiece, by an American." Stravinsky's remark about Elliott Carter's Double Concerto of 1961 has acquired a patronizing ring over the years, as Carter has advanced from being an intriguing individualist to being indisputably a leader among challenging contemporary composers. But it came too late, after Friday night's magnificent account of the Coecerto at the end of this fine seventy-fifth birthday concert for Carter. For what this piece, and so many others of Carter's, achieves, for all the surface complexity of its working, is to grip you at once with the conviction that this is the work of a supremely intelligent mind and a supremely discriminating ear.

More than twenty years after it was written, one can perhaps question whether the writing for harpsichord (John Coostable) is as good as that for the piano (Ian Brown) and the twin accompanying ensembles. But the counterpointing of rhythm and speed, the cyclical movement of the whole work, is conceived with brilliant subtlety. Oliver Knussen conducted a reading of animal strength and vigour which

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generally jumping up and down. Despite the fact there was a translator in residence, it was quite clear that the actors did not have the faintest idea what he was talking about. It is a remarkable play, nevertheless, one of the few adaptations of a great novel which actually adds to its interpretation.

The Duchess of Malfi Playhouse, Oxford

Jane Howell's dangerously low-key, austere production of this difficult play lays it firmly on an axis of sexual politics - a very promising idea which, with a bolder treatment and stronger cast, could go far. Stephanie Fayerman's strikingly beautiful set, a dead-black Renaissance hall in narrowing perspective, is really a magnificent prison where the princely brothers of Calabria keep their widowed sister "caged up like a relic" against further temptation. In this male-dominated society, the women's emotional interests

count for little against men's financial ones. The Duchess's independence, then, is secretly marrying - and marrying such a social inferior as a steward - acquires a more than emotional significance. As she outlives, sex-role reversal is involved; she has to propose to Antonio, not vice-versa, and foresees a day when husbands must beg their wives for a night's favours. And, by making her and the Duke twins, Webster allows the implication that they are naturally equal, but for sex.

world the characters' language lost much of its sparkle. Audibility was poor; with projection and clarity better suited to the tiny Bury St Edmunds theatre (next week's destination), many sentences lost the odd word or two. With Webster's terse, quirky style, that is usually fatal.

with far too much attention to be wholly reliable - although practically anyone in the cast might have "done it". People who overact like that are capable of anything. But to parody Agatha Christie is, in fact, to save her; once you accept the essential ridiculousness of her plots, you can enjoy their accidental virtues. If, that is, Miss Annis's brutal elegance can be described as an accident. A more genuine article was

Dance

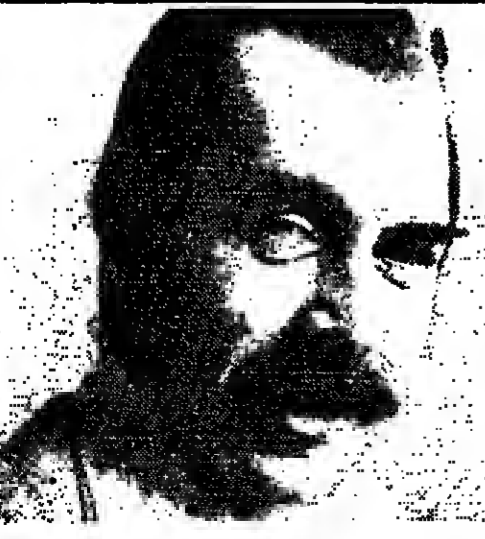
Swan Lake Covent Garden

The public loves Swan Lake. Every performance at Covent Garden this season has been full and enthusiastically received. But those of us who have watched the company over the years must feel that the public is being short-changed, since none of those seen so far in the ballerina role has matched what is used to be the expected standards.

Television

Accidental virtues

being shown on The South Bank Show (LWT) which was concerned with Yuri Lyubimov's Crime and Punishment. Although some of the play's effect is lost on television, where strobe lighting always brings back unfortunate memories of Top of the Pops, much remained - the music, which sounded like the scraping of a gigantic insect's legs, and the emaciated figure of Raskolnikov, who might have been sucked dry by just such an insect and spat out upon the stage.



Bill Wilson is incurable. He's not unhelpable.

Bill Wilson wanted to be a farmer or a chef. His uncle owned a farm in Kilmarnock where Bill was born. As it happened, Bill became a chef with the BMA. He is softly spoken, and has a warm sense of humour. Some years ago, he suffered a stroke which left him severely paralysed. He came to us at Putney - a long way from his uncle's farm.

He exercises with determination, loves to play chess (though he's short of opponents), goes to museums and occasionally cooks in the patients' kitchen. For Bill the RHHI is home, as it is for some 270 other patients whom we strive, through skilled nursing, therapy and medical treatment, to help achieve as much independence as possible.

The Royal Hospital & Home for Incurables.

Form with fields for Name (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE), Address, and checkboxes for: I enclose a donation to the RHHI, Please send me the RHHI's leaflet on making covenants or bequests, Please send me more information about the RHHI.

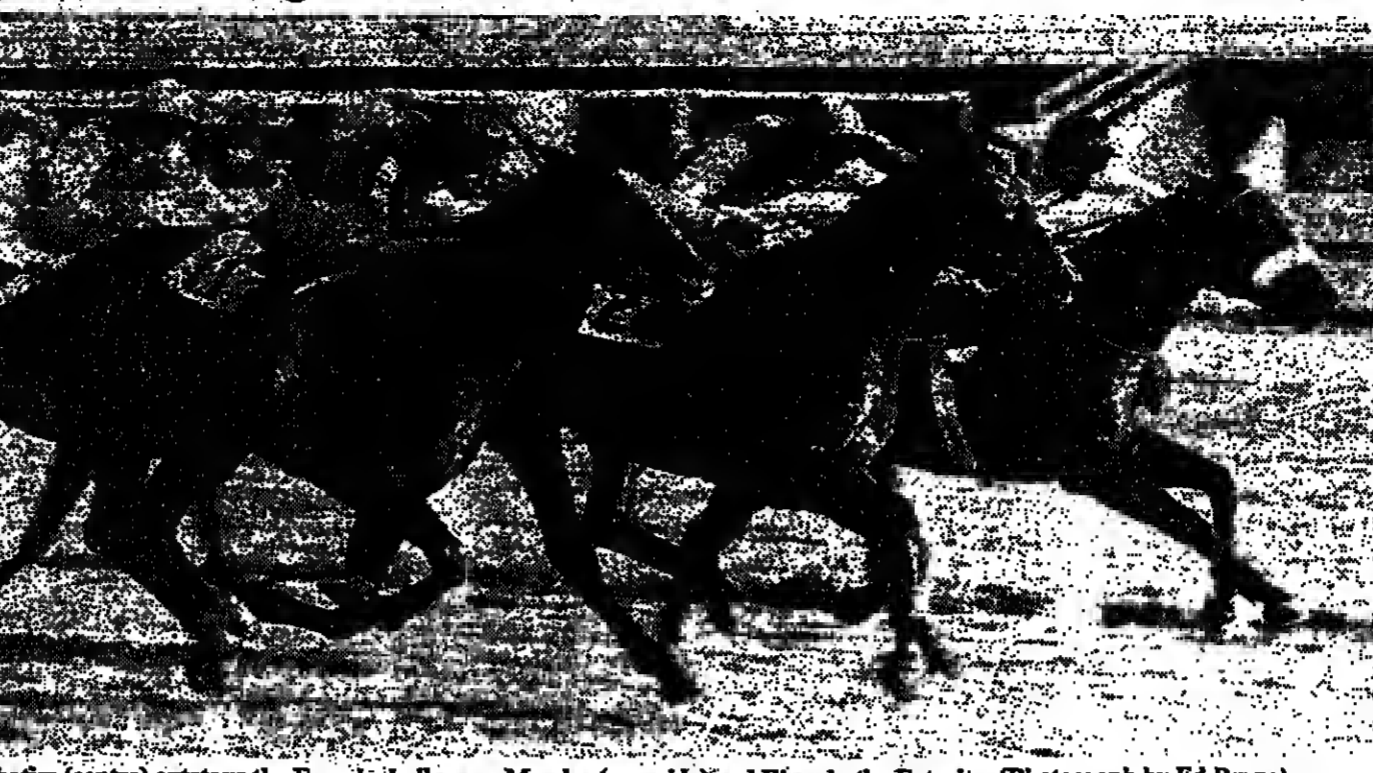
Or perhaps, Michael Pennington, who played the part, was simply exhausted by Mr Lyubimov. He is in the "action painting" school of direction, alternately grabbing and caressing the actors, spitting, and

Advertisement for Enterosan, Kaolin and morphine tablets for fast relief from upset stomach and diarrhoea. Includes the text 'STOPS DIARRHOEA - FAST!'.

RACING: HARWOOD HOLDS STRONG CLASSIC HAND AFTER FUTURITY SUCCESS

Alphabetum another jewel in Abdulla's crown

By Michael Seely Prince Khalid Abdulla is certainly the owner in the hot seat after the victory of Alphabetum in the William Hill Futurity...



On the attack: Alphabetum (centre) outstays the French challenger, Mendez (nearside) and Illium in the Futurity. (Photograph by Ed Byrns).

Alphabetum, on the other hand, fetched a mere \$23,000 at a later Keeneland sale which was bought for Paul Locke, who still owned the colt when he won so impressively at Newmarket...

Ma Biche ends her career on high note From Desmond Stoeberl French Racing Correspondent Ma Biche came back to her best form to take yesterday's Prix de Longchamp...

Edinburgh Draw advantage: High numbers best. 1.45 FISHEROW STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £282; 1m) (10 runners)

Nottingham DRAW advantage: high numbers best. 12.45 RAINWORTH STAKES (Div I: 2-y-o claiming: £1,247; 6f) (16 runners)

Chepstow Draw advantage: High numbers best. 1.30 HORSESHOE STAKES (Div I: apprentices: £1,084; 1m 4f) (18 runners)

Edinburgh Draw advantage: High numbers best. 1.45 FISHEROW STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £282; 1m) (10 runners)

Nottingham Selections By Our Racing Staff 12.45 Miss Stanford: 1.15 Top Ranker: 1.45 Innocent Maid: 2.15 Sarban: 2.45 Arthur's Daughter: 3.15 Walling Harbort: 3.45 Lily Of Laguna.

Edinburgh Draw advantage: High numbers best. 1.45 FISHEROW STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £282; 1m) (10 runners)

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Queensland blaze on all cylinders as Wigan run out of fire

The lessons of Craven Park last Sunday had obviously been well and truly learned by Queensland, who took 20 minutes to size up Wigan yesterday and then romped in a ridiculously easy victory which gave little comfort and few pointers to the Great Britain coach Frank Myler.

Queensland showing the lightning handling and running that was missing at Hull last week, brushed aside flimsy challenges to score eight tries from Lindenberg 2, Pheasant, Miles, French, Kilroy and Heugh.

Competitive discipline is blooming By Athol ASA Masters championships, sponsored by Sun Life, in Newcastle during the weekend...

Baddeley beats the best By Richard Eaton Steve Baddeley scored the finest win of his career at the weekend...

Edinburgh Draw advantage: High numbers best. 1.45 FISHEROW STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £282; 1m) (10 runners)

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HORIZONS

The Times Guide to career choice

A summing up of accountancy

Vacancies remain high in the profession, but students should weigh the options carefully, writes Michel Syrett.

Accountancy remains among the most popular career choices... Chartered accountancy graduates... Cost and management accountants...

Certified accountancy graduates are in demand... The public sector: Trainers are taken by local government departments...

To decide which professional institution to join... Size: how many people does the company or firm currently employ?...

Your qualifications: With the standards set by the professional institutions rising every year... CHERWOOD COLLEGE...

TEACHER TRAINING COURSES

INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED TEACHER TRAINING... UNIVERSITY OF LONDON... UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD...

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING... APPOINTMENT OF A LECTURER (Hydraulics/Water Resources Engineering)...

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Director of the Graduate Course in Health Economics... APPLICATIONS are invited from economists...

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN FACULTY OF LAW

Applications are invited for a full-time academic appointment to the Faculty of Law... ASSISTANT REGISTRAR...

THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

Lectureship in Civil Engineering... APPLICATIONS are invited for a lectureship in the department of Civil Engineering...

TEACHER

Required for ST NICHOLAS MONASTERY SCHOOL, BOSTON JACUARY 1984... Apply in writing with CV to the Headmistress...

CRUCIAL EXAMS IN 1984?

GET IT IN YOUR HAND? Applying for the 1984... HOW IS THE TIME TO CONSULT us for expert assessment and guidance...

JESUS COLLEGE, OXFORD

The College invites applications from men and women for a Junior Research Fellowship open to candidates in Classics or Philosophy...

OXFORD BRISTOL COLLEGE JUNIOR RESEARCH

The College invites applications from graduates of other universities for a Junior Research Fellowship in the Department of Classics...

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL, ASCOT, BERKSHIRE

Applications are invited for the post of Bursar at St George's School, Ascot... Applications are invited for the post of Director of the British School at Rome...

Prifysgol Cymru University of Wales UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIPS

A limited number of Fellowships will be offered by the University in October 1984... UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM... UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEMAN...

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

DEPARTMENT OF METALLURGY AND MATERIALS SCIENCE... APPLICATIONS are invited from graduates...

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

Department of Chemistry... CASE STUDENTSHIP IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY... It is hoped to make an immediate appointment for a SEPIC case studentship...

THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

Lectureship in Civil Engineering... APPLICATIONS are invited for a lectureship in the department of Civil Engineering...

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN HEALTH ECONOMICS... The successful candidate will work with the Director of the Centre for Health Economics...

MONASH UNIVERSITY Melbourne, Australia

DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS SCIENCE... APPLICATIONS are invited from well qualified candidates...

SHERBORNE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

In January 1984 examinations will take place for the following scholarships: General awards (for candidates under 18 on 1st June 1984)...

QUEENSWOOD SCHOLARSHIP

Queenswood is an Independent Girls boarding school in Hertfordshire with excellent facilities for girls in the 11-18 year age group... FIVE FURTHER SCHOLARSHIPS of £300 per annum...

Queen Anne's School, Caversham, Reading, Berks 1984 ENTRIES

SIX FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS will be awarded as a result of examinations taken in January at the pupils' own schools... FIVE FURTHER SCHOLARSHIPS of £300 per annum...

CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

THREE CORPORATION OF LONDON SCHOLARSHIPS to the value of £1,647 will be awarded on the results of the entry examinations to be held on 3rd February, 1984...

CHERWOOD COLLEGE

Cookery courses & catering studies... Moderate fees for expert tuition by experienced staff...

TEACHER TRAINING COURSES

INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED TEACHER TRAINING... UNIVERSITY OF LONDON... UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD...

ART HISTORY ABROAD

Rome - Siena - Florence - Venice... Five week course for students aged 17 and over...

ST. GODDARD'S COLLEGE

Secretary of the Department of... The College provides a wide range of courses...

AUDIOS SECRETARY

Partner and assistant of small firm of Chartered Surveyors... Salary negotiable. Full benefits.

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

Required to carry out all receptionist and telephone duties... Salary negotiable. Full benefits.

A CAREER FOR A CAREER-MINDED PA 25+

To £3,500 + profit-related bonus... Job involves a wide range of duties...

CITY £1,000 GOOD ORGANISER

Director of an existing business... Excellent opportunities for career advancement...

5K, 500+ DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY/PA

The chief is a young talented business executive... Excellent salary and benefits package.

EXPERIENCED MEDIA SECRETARY

with knowledge of advertising... Excellent salary and benefits package.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - RESEARCH GRANTS

Applications are invited from graduates with administrative experience... Excellent salary and benefits package.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - £6,000

Salary £6,000 per annum... Excellent salary and benefits package.

Educational

The Leverhulme Trust RESEARCH AWARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE INDIVIDUAL AWARDS FOR 1984 STUDY ABROAD STUDENTSHIPS

BRITISH SCHOOL AT ROME APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

OXFORD BRISTOL COLLEGE JUNIOR RESEARCH

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL, ASCOT, BERKSHIRE BURSAR

Prifysgol Cymru University of Wales UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIPS

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN FACULTY OF LAW

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN CASE STUDENTSHIP IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST Lectureship in Civil Engineering

UNIVERSITY OF YORK SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN HEALTH ECONOMICS

MONASH UNIVERSITY Melbourne, Australia DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS SCIENCE

Administrative Assistant - £6,000

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC

9.30 Ceefax AM. Breakfast Time with Frank...

tv-am

8.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond...

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: Noah and his Ark...

BBC 2

9.15 Daytime on Two: Choosing a career. 9.30 What job...

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown: Fast-moving words and numbers contest. 5.30 The Dick Van Dyke Show...

CHOICE

movement, and that they are capable of learning letter recognition from an extremely early age...

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Week. 6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30...

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00pm and 9.00pm major bulletins 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00pm and 12.00 midnight).

Radio 1

News on its half-hour 6.30am-8.30pm, then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (and 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00).

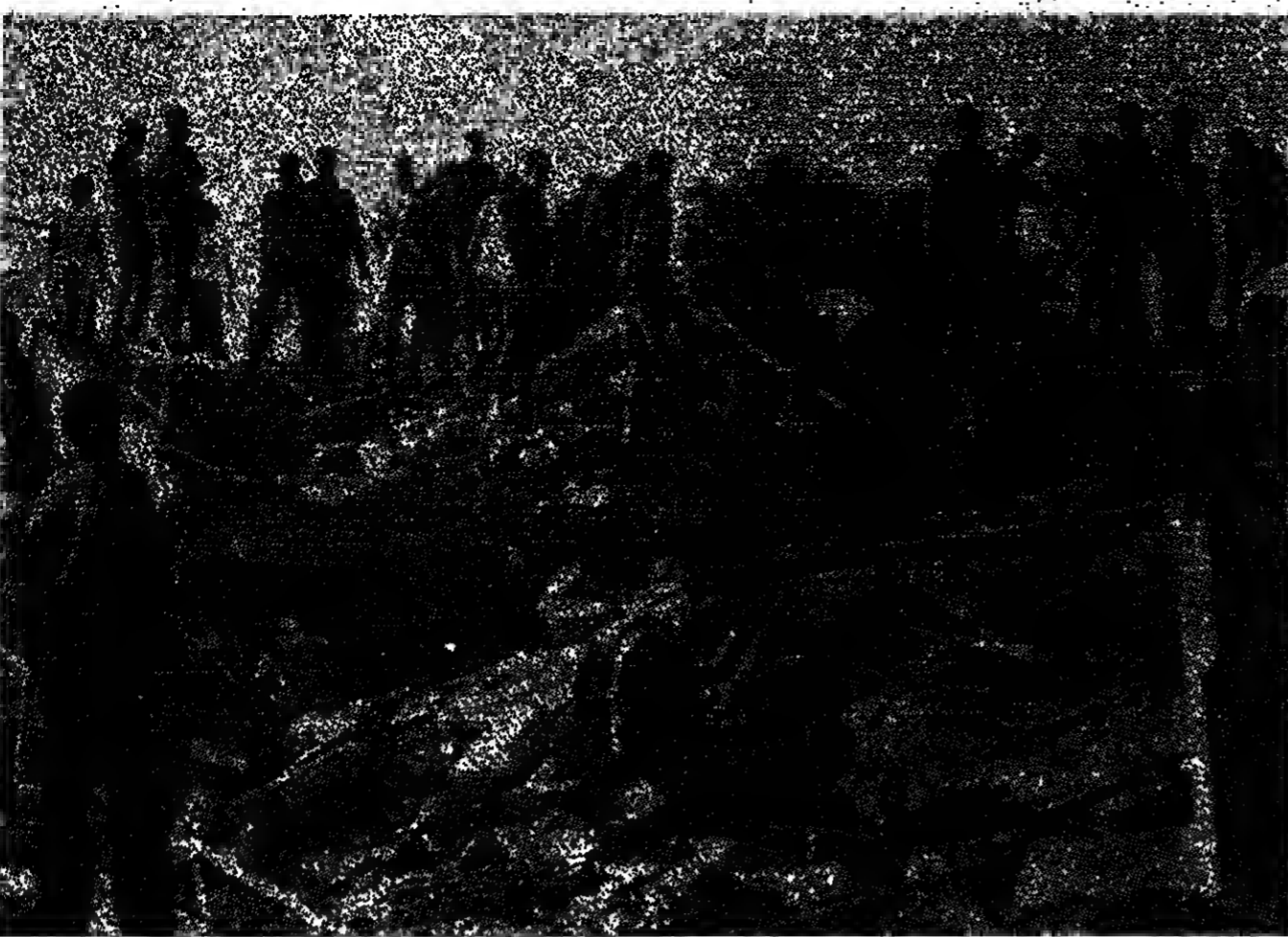
FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/265m; 106.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/530m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF-90-92.5; Radio 4: 1500kHz/1500m; VHF-92-95; LBC 152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital 152kHz/261m; VHF 98.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service MF 848kHz/462m.

Entertainments

Advertisement section for various theatres and venues including Apollo Victoria, Cottesloe, Durrant, Haymarket, and various regional theatres like Grampian, Anglia, Central, Channel, Granada, and Yorkshire.

Troops dig for survivors in Beirut devastation

Continued from page 1. He added: "But I think we should all recognize that these deeds make so evident the bestial nature of those who would assume power if they could have their way and drive us out of that area."



Rescue workers searching for dead and wounded in the remains of the building which housed 110 French troops



A French paratrooper comforts a friend trapped in rubble

Headquarters destroyed. Continued from page 1. The massive explosion totally destroyed the buildings cranking many, perhaps most, of those inside to death. The blast was so enormous that it was felt well over a mile away and left a crater beneath the ruins 20ft deep and 40ft wide.

Headquarters destroyed

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Continued from page 1. A few seconds before 6.20 am, an American Marine guard at the back gate of the US compound facing the airport terminal buildings saw a large red lorry draw into the parking area on the other side of the iron fence and barbed wire.

The Times Information Service

Today's events. Royal engagements. The Duke of Edinburgh, as Grand President, presides at the opening of the twenty-second conference of the British Commonwealth Ex-Services League at Windsor Castle, 10.30.

Nature notes. Jays are foraging for acorns in gardens and hedges. They have just scooped and are a brighter pink than they were in the summer.

Roads. London and South-east. A4200: Single lane, temporary signals, on Epsom Road between Phoenix Road and Druinmans Cross.

Weather forecast. An anticyclone to W of Ireland will move E towards central England. Gam to midnight.



High tides table. Lists tide times for various locations including London Bridge, Alderney, and other coastal points.

Around Britain table. Lists weather conditions and wind directions for various parts of the British Isles.

Lighting-up time table. Lists sunrise and sunset times for various cities including London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

Yesterday and Highest and lowest tables. Provide a summary of yesterday's weather and the highest and lowest temperatures recorded.

The Times Crossword Puzzle 16,268

A crossword puzzle grid with numbered squares and instructions for solving the puzzle.

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No. 16,267 will appear next Saturday.

Vertical advertisement strip on the right edge of the page, containing various promotional text and small images for products like 'Tom's' and 'Triple m...'